

and alerted police. CBRN responders were required to locate and identify the source of radiation, render-safe the improvised explosive device, and collect forensic evidence.

Observations

The ABCA team made the following observations with regard to Exercise Poet's Corner:

- **Equipment.** National police and military representatives from all participating nations used the same or similar pieces of commercial- and military-specification detection and identification equipment. The most commonly used equipment included the HazMatID™, HAPSITE® (Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry), AP2Ce chemical war agent detector, improved chemical agent monitor (ICAM), and MultiRAE® gas detector. All teams also used essentially equivalent types of individual protective equipment (ranging from national military versions of chemical-protective overgarments to Level B Tyvek® suits with corresponding hand protection and footwear) during the exercise. The S10 protective mask (or variant) was the most common air-purifying respirator to be used by teams other than those of the United States.
- **Mission command.** National police served in the lead role for all scenarios; all other agencies served in supporting roles. While overall site control was always maintained by the police, area control was sometimes ceded to the supporting agencies for certain mission-specific explosive ordnance disposal functions. Teams from the United States, Canada, and Australia, used similar incident command structures to conduct site operations. The team from the United Kingdom used an incident command structure that, in principle, was similar to those of the other teams; however, there were enough differences in national procedures and terminology that interoperability would have proved challenging.

- **TTP.** Teams from all countries approached each scenario using similar TTP for—
 - Establishing control, structures, organization, and layout.
 - Determining primacy of incident law enforcement command.
 - Performing search and incident operations.
 - Collecting evidence and forensics.
 - Integrating scientific advisers and subject matter experts.
 - Conducting decontamination operations.

Conclusions

Exercise Poet's Corner was a Technical Response Group CAPEX that demonstrated success in the sharing of scientific advancements, equipment updates, and TTP among participating nations. Technical Response Group members conducted the exploitation of CBRNE terrorism events with very few differences.¹ The use of similar equipment and TTP among the various nations not only strengthens confidence, but also sets the stage for potential international interoperability. 

Endnote:

¹Differences were based on national policies and laws such as police/military jurisdiction.

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Save the Date!

The 2012 U.S. Army Chemical Corps Regimental Week and the Chemical Corps Regimental Association (CCRA)-sponsored Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental, Multinational, Industry, and Academia (JIIM-IA) Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Conference will be held 25–29 June 2012. The first-ever joint Best CBRN Warrior Competition will be held 17–22 June 2012. Regimental Week events will include the Green Dragon Ball, a golf scramble, a Regimental run, the CCRA JIIM-IA CBRN Conference and Exhibition, a Hall of Fame/Distinguished Member of the Corps induction ceremony, an Honor to Our Fallen sunrise service, a CCRA barbeque, a joint program manager session, a Warfighter seminar, and the Sibert Award presentation. Planning is well underway, and it is anticipated to be an even better event than last year. So . . . mark your calendars!