



U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Office for Domestic Preparedness

# Top Officials (TOPOFF) 2

## MSCMC Briefing

September 17, 2003

For Official Use Only



# Introduction

- A national, biennial Domestic Counterterrorism Exercise Series.
- Two year planning endeavor, involving over 300 experts at all levels of government and the private sector.
- 103 Federal, State and local and 19 Canadian departments and agencies, as well as 76 hospitals are participating.
- 525 Exercise objectives.
- Full-scale exercise (FSE) participants: ~ 8,500.

**The Top Official (TOPOFF) National Domestic Counterterrorism Exercise Series is a component of the Secretary of Homeland Security's National Exercise Program.**



# TOPOFF Legislation

- Public Law 106-553 provides funding for TOPOFF, and Senate Report 106-404 outlines the concept.
- Responsibility for the TOPOFF Domestic Counterterrorism National Exercise Series transferred from the Department of Justice to the Department of Homeland Security on 1 March 2003 with transfer of the Office for Domestic Preparedness.
- The Department of Homeland Security and Department of State were co-chairs for the design, development, conduct, and evaluation of T2.
- Total exercise funding, DHS and DOS: \$17M. \$5M was provided in direct grants to the participating venues.



# TOPOFF 2000 – May 2000

- **Congress directed conduct of a no notice exercise:** “...with the participation of all key personnel who would participate in the consequence management of such an actual terrorist event.”
- **TOPOFF 2000 was a single, full-scale exercise conducted over 10 days in three venues:**
  - Denver, CO: Bioterrorism attack (Plague).
  - Portsmouth, NH: Chemical attack (Sulfur Mustard).
  - National Capital Region: NCR 2000, concurrent but separate exercise (Radiological Dispersal Device).
- **Lessons from TO2000 and September 11<sup>th</sup> steered T2 exercise goals and objectives.**





# TOPOFF Series Design

- **A cycle of exercise activity that increases in complexity.**
  - Focused on resolving acute issues before the full-scale exercise (FSE), and evaluating performance during and after the series.
- **The series is designed to be tolerant of potential contingencies.**
  - “Banks” learning after each exercise activity.
- **All participants have access to the full exercise scenario and all exercise documentation.**
  - Only the Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) is closely held.



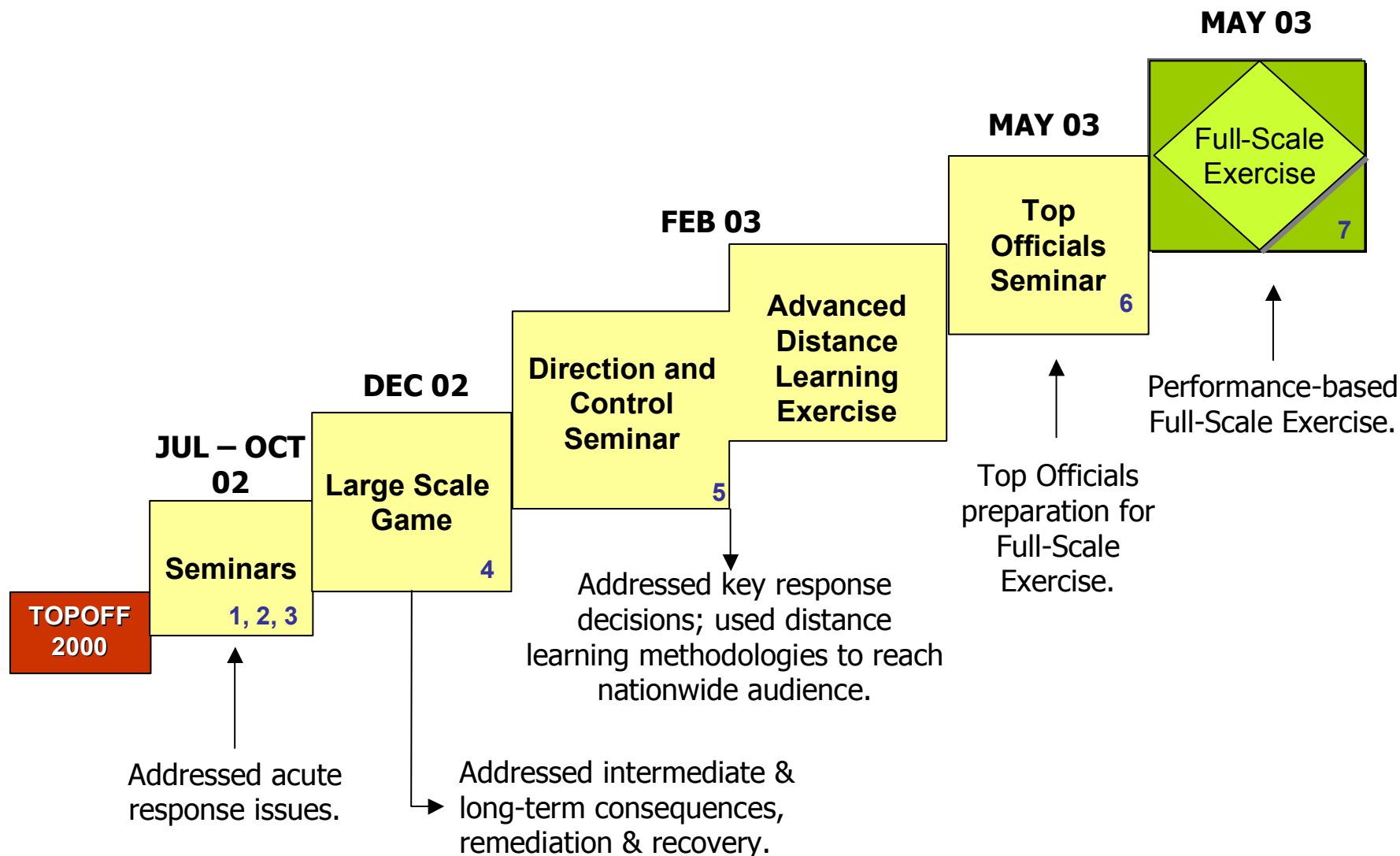
# T2 Goals

- Improve the nation's capacity to manage complex/extreme terrorism events.
- Create a broader operating framework of expert federal, state, and local (FSL) integrated crisis/consequence incident management capability.
- Validate FSL authorities, strategies, plans, policies, procedures, protocols, and synchronized capabilities.
- Build a sustainable, systematic national exercise program to support national domestic preparedness objectives.

**T2 will focus on a limited number of critical federal, state, local and international crisis and consequence management objectives.**



# T2 Cycle of Activity





# T2 Scenario

- **The threat will emulate the same fictional international terrorist organization employed in TO2000:**
  - Wages coordinated WMD campaign against U.S.
  - A role-playing adversary (“Red Team”) will aid in understanding threat tactics, techniques, and procedures.
- **Domestically:**
  - Intelligence build: Threats to targets in U.S.
  - Radiological dispersal device (RDD) attack in Seattle.
  - Bio-terrorism attack in Illinois.
  - National Capital Region (NCR) activity.
- **Internationally:** Cross-border effects / activities engage Canadian and U.S. counterparts.





# Exercise Scenario

- **Scenario Considerations**
  - Not a prediction of the future, or of a future opponent's actions.
  - Not a statement of official policy.
  - Contains artificialities necessary to create conditions required to attain exercise goals and objectives.
  - Does not supplant existing intelligence estimates.



# 12-16 May 03 FSE Federal Participants

- **25 Federal Departments and Agencies and Red Cross.**

- American Red Cross
- Central Intelligence Agency
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce, NOAA
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Interior, USGS
- Department of Justice, FBI/ATF
- Department of Labor, OSHA
- Department of State
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Treasury
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Communications Commission
- General Services Administration
- Homeland Security Council
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- National Security Council
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Technical Support Working Group
- United States Federal Reserve



# **12-16 May 03 FSE**

## **State, Local & Provincial Participants**

- **State of Washington; Seattle, and King County.**
- **State of Illinois; Chicago, Lake, Cook, Kane and DuPage Counties.**
- **NCR: Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia**
- **British Columbia and Vancouver, Canada.**



# Intergovernmental FSE Play

## Washington Venue:

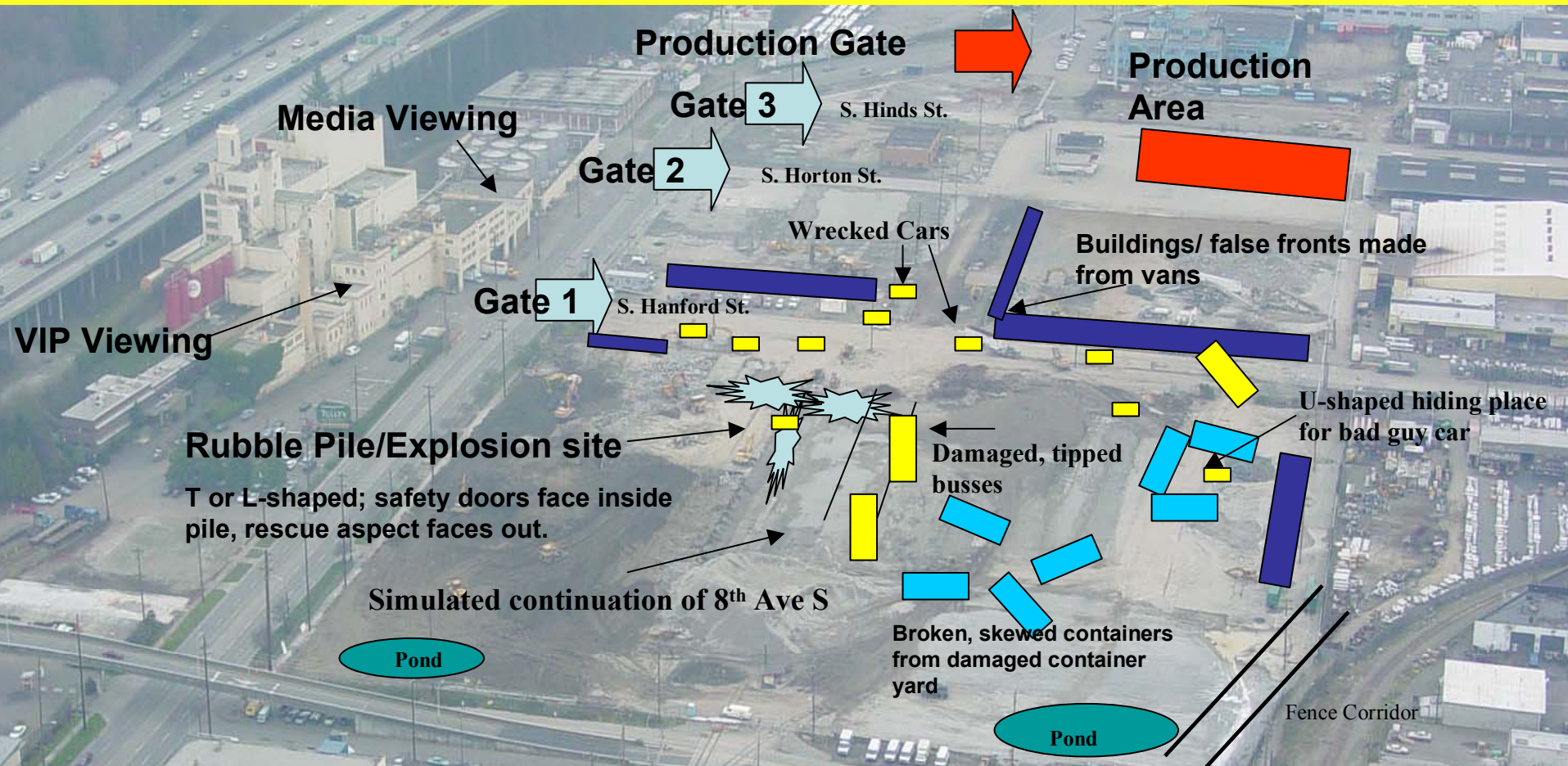
- Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD) Response
- Joint Operations Center
- Joint Information Centers
- 14 Hospitals
- Seattle PD SWAT Takedown
- USCG / FBI Maritime Takedown
- Virtual News Network (VNN) Teams and Studio

## Illinois Venue:

- Bioterrorism Response
- Joint Operations Center
- Joint Information Center
- 5 Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Sites; 62 Hospitals
- Midway Airport Exercise
- State Police SWAT Takedowns
- FBI Takedown
- Virtual News Network (VNN) Teams and Studio



# RDD Site and Production Area



**NOTES: 15-20 cars, 2-3 Metro buses damaged in rubble, in streets, up against buildings, in rubble pile, several burning. Radiation readings, bomb debris overlay the site design. 100 role players in crowd, 200 moulaged victims in/around scene or trapped. Mannequins and parts placed in rubble/ cars representing fatalities.**





# RDD Site







# RDD Site





# RDD Site







# T2 FSE Technical Support

- **Technical Support Working Group (TSWG)**
  - Swab Sampler
  - PEAC-WMD
  - COBRA
  - Low Cost Casualty Self-Indicating Radiation Dosimeter Badge
  - Isotope Identifiers RADSMART and Exploranium



# Radioactive Dispersal Device (RDD) Plume Modeling

- **Exercise Design**
- **Challenges**
- **FSE**



# Exercise Control, Media and VIPs

## **Exercise Control:**

- Exercise control manages exercise conduct
- Directs the pace and intensity of play
- Assures the safety of participants, the public, and the environment
- Maintains the security of exercise participants, equipment, and resources.

## **Control, Media and VIP Facilities:**

- Master Control Cell & National Media Center (NCR).
- Venue Control Cells (Both venues & Canada).
- VIP & Media Centers (Both venues).



# Data Collection & Analysis

- **The goals of data collection and analysis are to:**
  - Help agencies understand domestic incident management and related issues, and to develop possible solutions, and
  - Provide early analysis throughout the exercise series to promote continuous learning and improvement.
- **Three-Step Process:**
  - OBSERVATION collects data; RECONSTRUCTION turns data into information; ANALYSIS turns information into knowledge.

**Purpose:** To deliver knowledge to participants so that they, and non-participating homeland security professionals nationwide, can improve or create policies and procedures based on lessons that are learned through T2.



# Virtual News Network (VNN)

- **Live Broadcast to all participants**
  - ~ Eight hours each day.
  - Available to all States, Territories, and the District of Columbia.
- **Anchored Newscasts from Washington, D.C.**
  - News anchor Frank Sesno.
- **Local Studios**
  - Studios and Anchors in Illinois and Washington.
- **Field Crews With Producers**
  - Cover exercise play and conduct interviews with participants, government officials, and subject matter experts.
- **International/Canadian Pre-produced Stories.**



# TOPOFF 3 and Beyond

- **T2 Lessons Learned**
- **DHS Organization**
  - ODP
  - UASI
  - Regional Concept
  - Maritime and Ports



# Summary

- **TOPOFF is**
  - A performance-based, biennial domestic counterterrorism exercise series emphasizing collaborative & continuous learning.
  - Flexible, dynamic, & designed to benefit the widest audience.
  - Fosters the Federal, State, local, and international cooperation necessary to counter terrorism.
  - Provides a premier opportunity to “practice to proficiency.”

**TOPOFF 2000 balanced the need to provide key exercise feedback with the need to protect results – T2 results will be similarly managed.**



# T2 Contact Information

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# Questions and Answers

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