

Bioterrorism incident Pre-Planning and Emergency Response

By

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The new Global shift in security management...

There is a shift of focus from dry science to life science, and the struggle by biosafety/Biosecurity experts is to put their focus on preventing bioterrorism !

9/11 brought terrorism to forefront of national security debate- **Thoughts now shifting to use of life science for Bioterrorism activities**



A glimpse of the thoughts of some world leaders
(politicians, scientists) and terrorists on
Bioterrorism.....!!!!



General Colin Powell, 1993

"The one that scares me to death, perhaps even more so than tactical nuclear weapons, and the one we have the least capability against is biological weapons.", 1993



R. James Woolsey, Former Director of Central Intelligence Agency, 1995

"Bioterrorism is the single most dangerous threat to U.S. national security in the foreseeable future"



**Geneticist & Microbiologist,
Dr. Joshua Lederberg, Nobel Laureate**

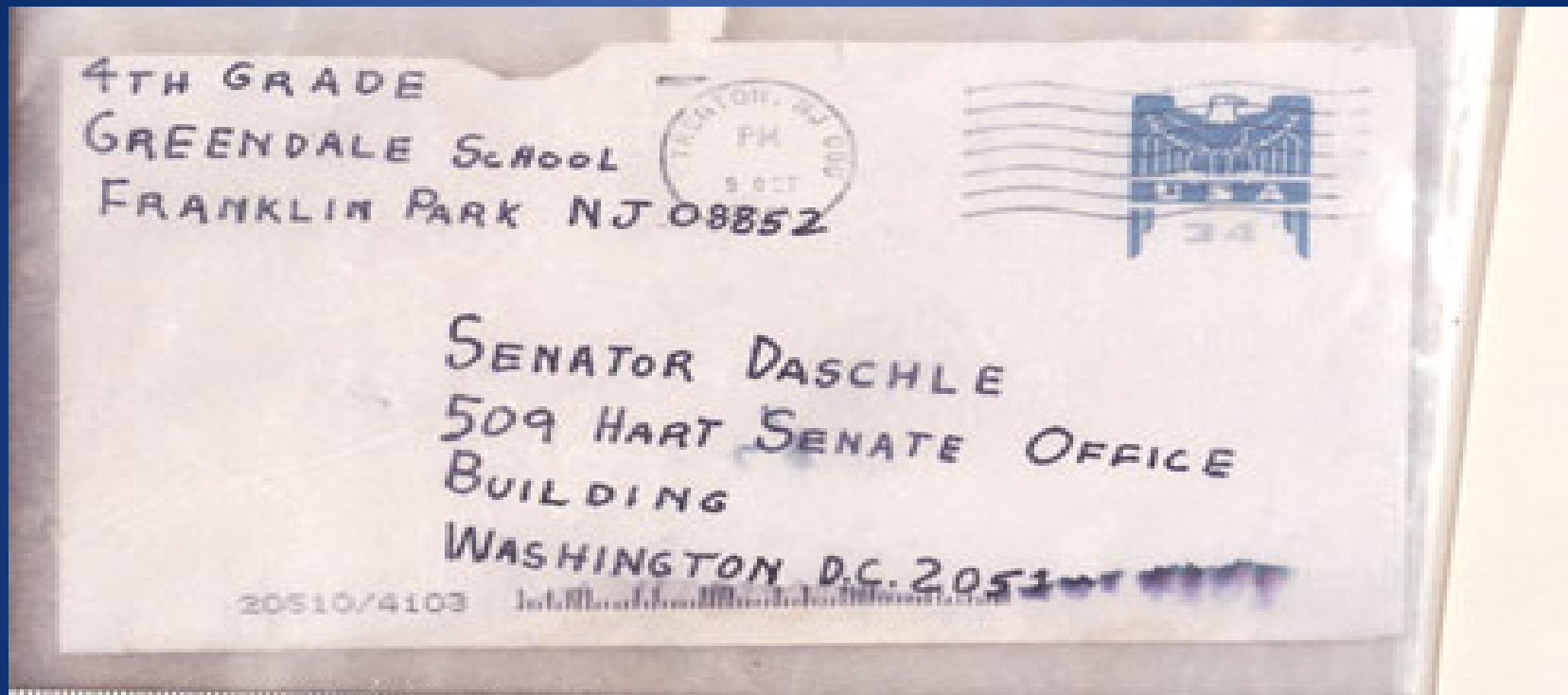
Today one man can make war. A lucky bio buffoon could kill 400,000 people



Osama Bin Laden, former leader of Al Qaeda

"Acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction(nuclear and strategic biological weapons)for the defense of Muslims is a religious duty"-
1998

The potential harm that Bioterrorism can cause!!



A letter sent to senator (Majority leader) Tom Daschle in 2001 containing Anthrax powder killed two postal workers.

What is Bioterrorism !

Bioterrorism is terrorism involving the intentional release or dissemination of biological agents.

These agents can be (bacteria, viruses, or toxins), and may be in a naturally occurring or a human-modified form.

Bioterrorism-Challenge to law enforcement community

- They favor mass casualty incidents
- Ease of acquisition of Biological agents and effectiveness as weapons
- Like to instill fear, make their use a natural evolution of terrorism
- Health of law enforcement officers is a priority within the law enforcement strategies
- The potential to for terrorists to select agents that can be manipulated and dispersed to harm populations

Cont.....

- Because of incubation period of Biological agents are liked by terrorist as it gives them time to flee
- Law enforcement officers in their capacity as first responders must do it within limits as personal safety is key

Why Bioterrorism a threat?

- Its real and incase of an attack African state parties are not ready to respond to the same
- In case of an attack, the consequences are significant
- The attack may take a while before detection
- Large number of the sick with similar symptoms or un-usual infection may indicate that Bio-weapon had been used when it is already late
- Bioterrorism is threatening because of its clandestine nature

Nature safety and security culture

- Beware of common things in uncommon places or vice versa
- Dead or alive animals in populated areas or bus stops or any other public places, children, concealed pregnant ladies, all these could be used for suicide attacks
- Report any suspicious operations or moves by strangers in your environs to the security agents

- THANK YOU

