

Safe Community Newsletter



Autumn 2023 Issue #7

Terrorist Threat
Against Public
Transportation

Rail Bound Traffic



Overseas experiences indicate that rail bound traffic, such as trains, stations and railway tracks, have been targets of sabotage and attack. Rail bound traffic constitutes an attractive target for terrorists because of its potential to cause devastating mass-casualty situation and wide media coverage.

Why is Rail Bound Traffic Prone to Attacks?







Critical Infrastructures

Rail transport infrastructures are important to the modern economy. Any damage or disruption to the rail system would create quick ripple effects on the whole society.

Large Number of Crowds

Huge number of passengers in confined spaces, especially during rush hours, can easily cause a large number of casualties if being attacked.

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Open Passage Design

Most rail systems are designed to operate openly with less restrictions in order to facilitate passengers to travel, making it vulnerable to attacks by terrorists or like-minded attackers.

OVERSEAS AND LOCAL CASES



Bombing



On 7 Jul 2005, four homegrown terrorists simultaneously detonated three homemade bombs on three London Underground trains and the fourth homemade bomb was detonated on a double-decker bus an hour later. The attack caused 56 deaths and 784 injuries.



Hong Kong, China

Bombing



On 2 Feb 2020, a homemade bomb was found in a plastic bag under a seat in a train carriage after arriving at Lo Wu MTR Station. After it was moved to the platform, it caught fire and began to smoke. No casualties were reported.



The US

Shooting



On 12 Apr 2022, a 62-year-old male set off two smoke canisters and opened fire aboard a subway train in Brooklyn, New York. The attack caused 29 injuries.



Republic of Korea

Stabbing



On 21 Jul 2023, a 33-year-old male carried out a knife attack targeted civilians randomly near the exit of a subway station in Seoul, resulting in one death and three injuries.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In the event of a terrorist incident, we should apply the advisory of ^{48}Run , Hide, $Report^{99}$ to stay safe.













Leave via a safe route. If you can't leave, take cover. Don't use any sound-emitting or luminous devices.

Call the police when you are safe.

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

In response to the potential threat posed to our rail bound traffic, all citizens should always stay alert and heighten vigilance, especially look out for unattended suspicious item or person in crowded places.



SUSPICIOUS PERSON

Is the behaviour of the person unusual?

- Is the presence of the person foreign to the area?
- Is the appearance of the person unusual?



Please scan for more information.



SUSPICIOUS ITEM

- Is the appearance of the object unusual?
- Is the existence of the object foreign to the area?
- Can the owner of the object be identified?



Please scan for more information.

Hong Kong Taxi Drivers Actively Support / "Safe Journey, Spot and Report"

The Inter-departmental Counter Terrorism Unit (ICTU) launched the Hong Kong Taxi Drivers "Spot and Report" Campaign in August and received active support from the taxi industry. Members of ICTU, along with industry representatives, visited all dedicated LPG filling stations in Hong Kong and distributed souvenirs to taxi drivers, with a view to promoting the important message of "Safe Journey, Spot and Report".



ICTU extends its gratitude to the taxi industry for supporting the campaign. It will also continue to collaborate with the industry by providing relevant training and useful information to enhance taxi drivers' emergency preparedness

as well as their capability of identifying suspicious activities.

A particular word of thanks should go to the following taxi companies and associations for their active support and collaborations in our launch of the "Spot and Report" campaign:

- Lantau Blue Taxi Society
- The Kowloon Taxi Owners Association
- Taxi Dealers & Owners Association Limited
- Motor Transport Workers General Union
- Hong Kong Taxi Owners' Association Limited
- Sun Star Taxi Operators Association
- United Friendship Taxi Owners & Drivers Association Limited
- Excellent Professional Taxi Society





