

Total Defence Strategy Card Game GUARDIANS OF THE CITY

Game Resource Kit
For Facilitators

CONTENTS

Introduction	
 What is Guardians of the City? What is the Game Resource Kit and How Can It Be Used? Learning Objectives 	. 2
Suggested Session Outline	
Suggested Resources and Session Outline Checklist	
Case Studies	
 Military and Civil Defence: Multiple Terrorist Attacks	. 8 - 11
Additional Resources	
 About Total Defence	- 19 - 21 - 23 - 29 - 32

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS GUARDIANS OF THE CITY?

Guardians of the City is a Total Defence (TD) strategy card game to help youths have a deeper understanding of TD and the complexity of terror threats, and to show them how we can all play a part to keep Singapore safe and secure. It also shows how society can come together to better prepare for crises, respond to them, and recover from them.

WHAT IS THE GAME RESOURCE KIT AND HOW CAN IT BE USED?

This game resource kit provides you with a detailed plan on introducing Guardians of the City to participants, and case-studies to discuss how they can play their part in TD. It includes a Checklist, Game FAQs, and additional reading materials.

You can also access other resources at www.totaldefence.sg:

• Instructional Video: A short video that introduces and explains Guardians of the City.

• **Debrief Presentation**: A set of PowerPoint slides that can be used during the post-game reflection.

• Debrief Video: A short video that you can use during the post-game reflection to share the

key learning points with participants.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the session, participants should be able to:

- 1. Understand that Singapore's peace and security should not be taken for granted.
- **2.** Appreciate the complexity of the threats facing Singapore, the need for trade-offs, and the impact of everyday decisions on the fight against terrorism.
- **3.** Recognise simple yet concrete actions that can help their family and friends be more prepared for crises.

SUGGESTED SESSION OUTLINE

SUGGESTED RESOURCES & SESSION OUTLINE

After reading the Game Resource Kit, and exploring other resources on www.totaldefence.sg, you may wish to conduct the session along the following outline:

Focus	Action	Resource	Duration
WATCH	A short video that introduces and explains Guardians of the City will be made available soon.	Instructional Video	5 min
PLAY	Use Checklist on page 4	Guardians of the City card game set	
REFLECT	 Use Checklist Questions as prompts Use Reflection Questions on page 4 Facilitate discussion on "Playing our part in Total Defence" Reflection Questions		25 min
DISCUSS	 Relate the game to real life situations and current affairs Highlight "Prepare, Respond and Recover" 	Case Studies	30 min

SUGGESTED SESSION OUTLINE

CHECKLIST

You can use this checklist to observe various situations during gameplay and select appropriate follow-up questions to ask the relevant teams during the post-game reflection:

Categories	Observations during game play	Which teams/ participants experienced this	Questions to ask during the post-game reflection	
	Difficulty assigning National Effort levels		 1a. What were your considerations is allocating your National Effort levels? 1b. How did you feel having to choose on pillar over another when assigning National Effort levels? (This question is meant for participant to realise that there were trade-offs allocating National Effort Levels.) 2. How did you resolve disagreement with your teammate over the distribution of National Effort levels? (This will highlight to participants the not every decision will be unanimous.) 	
National Effort	Disagreement on assigning National Effort levels			
Playing Action Cards	Disagreement on Action cards to play		. Were you playing a game that focuse on eliminating terrorists (offensiv	
	Playing cards such as "Raids" and "Security Profiling" that reduce the strength of terrorist cells and affect citizen groups negatively as well.		strategy) or protecting your citizen groups (defensive strategy)? (This helps participants realise that there were risks involved in any strategic decision made, and that they had to decide which risk they were more willing to take.)	
	Lack of preparedness for the effects of Crisis cards		How prepared were you for crises? (This question is meant for participants)	
Playing Crisis Cards	Reacting to effects of Crisis cards		to realise that crises can happen any time and that we have to be prepared.) 2. What were your strategies after you were hit by crises? (This question is meant for participants to realise the importance of being resilient in the face of crisis.)	
General gameplay	Gameplay and strategising		1. If you were to play the game again, what are some things you would do differently?	

SUGGESTED SESSION OUTLINE

This section uses selected cards as case studies to help participants understand that terrorists can strike in various ways. Through discussing these scenarios, the participants would understand how they can better prepare for, respond to and recover from these crises. We have provided prompts and questions that you can use for the discussion.

MILITARY & CIVIL DEFENCE: MULTIPLE TERRORIST ATTACKS

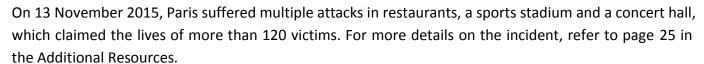
KEY MESSAGES

- Terrorism is a real and present danger. It is not a matter of if, but when, an attack will occur.
- We need to support our National Servicemen when they are called up for training or operations to keep us safe and secure.



DID YOU KNOW?

The scenario described in this Crisis card is based on a real-life incident.





YOU CAN ASK...

1. What can we do to *prepare* ourselves for an incident like this?

This question is meant for participants to think about what they can do to help prevent a crisis like this. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"NSmen on Guard"

Our security agencies will be on high alert and trained to respond to such large-scale terror attacks. [You can refer to page 29 for more details on the counter-terrorism efforts by the SAF and Home Team, and share about existing efforts.] We can also do our part by supporting our National Servicemen who are mobilised to protect us during this period.





"Alert Community"

We can pay attention to our surroundings and notify the police if we notice suspicious behaviour or items.



"Neighbourhood Watch"

We can volunteer in programmes such as Citizens on Patrol, and work together to keep a lookout for suspicious activities in our neighbourhood.

2. What are some ways in which we can **respond** when an incident like this occurs?

This question is meant for participants to think about the aftermath of an incident, where society suffers from disruption, fear and anxiety. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"Prepared for Crisis"

We can attend first aid and emergency preparedness programmes to learn what we can do to take care of our family, friends and those around us.



"Show of Solidarity"

We should avoid stereotyping, blaming and discriminating against the racial and religious groups to which terrorists belong. Instead, we could rally behind these groups.



"Galvanised People"

We could show our unity through ground-up movements and expressions of solidarity on social media such as #illridewithyou and #KamiTidakTakut. [For more details on these movements, refer to pages 24 and 26.]

3. How can we **recover** from this in the long term?

This question is meant for participants to think about the impact on our society and what we need to do to bounce back. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"Strong Resolve"

We should remain united and determined to overcome the crisis.

ECONOMIC DEFENCE: CYBER-ATTACK



KEY MESSAGES

- Terrorists can carry out cyber-attacks to cause significant damage to our economy and disruptions to our daily lives.
- We can play our part by adopting good cyber-security practices.



DID YOU KNOW?

The scenario described in this Crisis card is based on real-life incidents.

In 2015, a cyber-attack that disabled a power grid in Ukraine.

In 2016, hackers disrupted access to popular websites like Amazon, Twitter and Spotify in the US and Western Europe. In the same year, attacks on Starhub's broadband network caused disruptions in Internet surfing in Singapore.



YOU CAN ASK...

1. What can we do to *prepare* ourselves for an incident like this?

This question is meant for participants to think about how they can be vigilant and alert. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"Business Resilience"

Employers can train their employees to respond appropriately when cyber-attacks occur. For instance, employers can send their employees to attend cyber-security courses and also emphasise the importance of good cyber practices.



"Cyber-Security"

We can start taking personal responsibility by developing a deeper awareness and understanding of the cyber-threats around us, equipping ourselves with the right cyber-security knowledge and most importantly, taking action to secure our devices and connections.



SOCIAL DEFENCE: LONE WOLF TERRORIST ATTACK

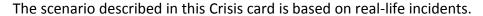


KEY MESSAGES

- There is an increasing number of self-radicalised individuals who attack everyday venues using ordinary objects.
- We cannot expect our security agencies to be everywhere all the time, so we need to stay vigilant and alert.



DID YOU KNOW?



During a fireworks display in Nice, France, to mark Bastille Day (14 July 2016), a Frenchman of Tunisian descent drove a truck through the large crowd, killing about 84 people.

On 19 December 2016, a Tunisian, hijacked a truck and rammed it into a Christmas market in Berlin, Germany, killing 12 people and injuring 48.



YOU CAN ASK...

1. What can we do to *prepare* ourselves for an incident like this?

This question is meant for participants to think about how they can be vigilant and alert. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"Alert Community"

We can pay attention to our surroundings and notify the authorities if we see anything suspicious.





"Neighbourliness"

We can make an effort to get to know our neighbours and recognise those who stay in our neighbourhood.



"Prepared for Crisis"

We can attend first aid and emergency preparedness programmes to learn what we can do to take care of our family, friends and those around us. We should also know what to do to keep safe and help others in a crisis – 'Run, Hide, Tell' and 'Press, Tie, Tell'.¹

2. What are some ways in which we can *respond* when an incident like this occurs?

This question is meant for participants to think about the aftermath of an incident, where society suffers from disruption, fear and anxiety. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. An example of an Action card and response that participants may provide:



"Show of Solidarity"

We should avoid stereotyping, blaming and discriminating against the racial and religious groups to which terrorists belong. Instead, we could rally behind these groups.

10

¹ Find out more at www.sgsecure.sg.

3. How can we *recover* from this in the long term?

This question is meant for participants to think about the impact on our society and what we need to do to bounce back. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"Strong Resolve"

We should remain united and determined to overcome the crisis.



"Galvanised People"

We can show our unity through ground-up movements and expressions of solidarity on social media such as #illridewithyou and #KamiTidakTakut and. [For more details on the movements, refer to pages 24 and 26.]

PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFENCE: FEAR MONGERING

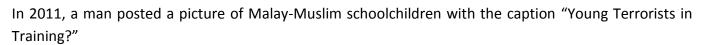


- Do not believe everything you read online. Check your facts and think about the implications of your actions before sharing.
- We can play our part by strongly rejecting messages that seek to incite hatred or discrimination against our fellow Singaporeans.



DID YOU KNOW?

The scenario described in this Crisis card is based on real-life incidents.



Many Singaporeans, both Malay-Muslim and non-Malay-Muslim condemned the action and voiced their solidarity with the Malay-Muslim community.

In December 2016, police cautioned the public against spreading a text message circulating on WhatsApp containing rumours about potential attacks in popular shopping areas such as Orchard Road. This incited unnecessary fear and public alarm.



YOU CAN ASK...

You can bring participants' attention to the "Racial and Religious Tension" and "Community Strife" Crisis cards, and explain that these could be possible consequences of fear mongering.

1. What can we do to *prepare* ourselves for incidents like these?

This question is meant for participants to consider their personal experience of inter-racial and inter-religious friendships. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. These are examples of Action cards and responses that participants may provide:



"Cultural Exchanges"

We can make friends with people from different cultures and religions, and make it a point to learn more about different customs and practices.





"Neighbourliness"

We can take part in neighbourhood activities that encourage us to get to know our neighbours. We can also take the initiative to organise such activities.

2. What are some ways in which we can respond when an incident like this occurs?

This question is meant for participants to think about the aftermath of an incident, where society suffers from disruption, fear and anxiety. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. An example of an Action card and response that participants may provide:



"Show of Solidarity"

If we witness people of a particular racial or religious group being victimised, we can alert the authorities and try to help the people involved. We should avoid stereotyping particular racial and religious groups, to prevent the issue from blowing out of proportion or fanning hatred between racial and religious groups.

Other points that may be raised:

- We can ensure that we rely only on credible online sources instead of reading tabloid newsrooms and forums that might encourage unnecessary fear.
- We can be mindful of our social media actions and not share posts or videos that encourage violence and hostility.

3. How can we **recover** from this in the long term?

This question is meant for participants to think about who would be affected by such an incident, and how to remain united. You should encourage participants to look through their Action cards. An example of an Action card and response that participants may provide:



"Strong Resolve"

We should remain united and determined to overcome the crisis. In a multi-racial and multi-religious society like Singapore, we have to protect and strengthen our bonds, and not allow mistrust to be sown among our communities.

ABOUT TOTAL DEFENCE

This section explains the fundamentals of Total Defence (TD) and its five pillars. It also provides examples of how TD can be applied. You can use this resource to explain the background context of TD, the five pillars and how participants can contribute to TD.

WHAT IS TOTAL DEFENCE?

The concept of TD was introduced in 1984, and was adapted from the experiences of Switzerland and Sweden.

TD involves every Singaporean playing a part, individually and collectively, to build a strong, secure, and cohesive nation that is prepared to deal with any crisis. Every small act counts — whether it is being vigilant against suspicious activities, respecting and accepting people of different ethnic backgrounds, taking care of our environment, showing support for our NSmen on duty at home or abroad, or simply looking out for one another. This is the essence of TD — that when we each play our part, we help to strengthen the nation as well as ourselves.

WHY IS TOTAL DEFENCE IMPORTANT AND RELEVANT?

As a young nation with a small population, we cannot afford to maintain an armed force of only professional regular soldiers. Every Singaporean needs to be involved to multiply our defence capability.

Modern warfare is no longer limited to physical battle. TD can help protect us from non-conventional and non-military threats.

HOW CAN WE PLAY A PART IN TOTAL DEFENCE?

TD is divided into five pillars – Military Defence, Civil Defence, Economic Defence, Social Defence, and Psychological Defence.

Military Defence

To defend ourselves when attacked or, more importantly, to discourage foreign countries from intervention and to prevent ourselves from being attacked, we need a strong Military Defence.

This is why we have built up the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF). As a conscript armed force, the SAF depends not only on its Regulars, who are professional soldiers, but also on the commitment of its NSmen and Full-Time National Servicemen (NSFs) and the support of their families and employers. To remain operationally ready, our soldiers must keep fit, train seriously, and keep abreast of the latest military knowledge and equipment. While the men do their part, mothers, wives, and girlfriends can provide much needed encouragement and support.

Military Defence is having a strong ability to deter attacks and to defend the nation when attacked. Besides having advanced military hardware, we need competent and committed servicemen, and strong community support.

Civil Defence

Civil Defence involves taking care of our family, friends and people around us in times of crisis and disaster. During such challenging times, resources will be strained, and we will need everyone to pitch in. If we know what to do, we can save ourselves and our loved ones, help others, and ensure that life goes on as normally as possible.

We can do so by learning what to do in an emergency before it happens. We can also attend programmes that the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) conducts on basic first aid, shelter management, and emergency arrangements, like relief supply of critical items. The threat of terrorism will be around for a long time, and while much has been done to ensure that Singapore is well-protected against terrorist attacks, security personnel cannot be everywhere. Singaporeans can help by looking out for and reporting anything that is suspicious.

Civil Defence is about being equipped with emergency preparedness skills that can help us take care of our family, friends and people around us in times of crisis. It is also about being vigilant and looking out for security threats.

Economic Defence

Economic Defence is about building up a strong and robust economy that can support Singapore through economic challenges and national emergencies.

It means that the government, employers, and trade unions work together during peacetime to ensure that we have good working relations and proper infrastructure, and our economy is competitive. Individuals also play a part by retraining and upgrading their skills, and by keeping up with new technologies and new ways of doing things.

When we do this, we help ourselves remain employable as the economy changes and old jobs give way to new ones. Saving up for a rainy day and adopting environment-friendly practices are also ways to protect ourselves and our future generations. To prepare for national emergencies, the government and businesses work together to put plans in place to keep offices and factories running even after NSmen and equipment have been called up, and to maintain national stockpiles of essential items to keep the economy going.

Economic Defence is about building up a strong and robust economy that can withstand economic challenges and national emergencies. Individuals play their part by keeping their skills relevant to the economy.

Social Defence

Social Defence involves living harmoniously and looking out for one another. Singapore enjoys social stability because Singaporeans have learnt to live harmoniously with people of all races and religions.

We befriend, accept, and help people of different ethnicities. We show consideration for one another. We respect and are sensitive to the needs and practices of others' culture and religions. We have meals together and invite friends to join in our festivities.

Through such small efforts in our daily lives, we are able to better understand and appreciate the heritage, culture, and practices of our fellow countrymen and strengthen our bonds as Singaporeans. We can also contribute towards an inclusive, gracious, and compassionate society by helping the less fortunate and underprivileged among us.

Social Defence is about strengthening social bonds by promoting cross-cultural understanding among citizens of different races and religions, and helping the less fortunate in society.

Psychological Defence

While being prepared is the key to TD, it is always the fighting spirit, the will, the resilience of Singaporeans that determines whether or not our nation will overcome a crisis. Psychologically, each Singaporean must have the resolve and determination to overcome any crisis together.

When we are united in pride for our country, we will stand up to defend what is ours, and protect our independence as a nation. When every Singaporean feels this way, we can be assured of a secure future, regardless of the challenge.

Psychological Defence is our pride and confidence in our nation, our commitment and determination in defending what we stand for, and our resilience in overcoming any crisis together.

GAME FAQs

While playing Guardians of the City, some participants may have questions about the game. This set of FAQs is meant to provide the participants with more information.

1. Why are there only 11 points for the 5 Defence Pillars?

You could highlight that like in real life, we would have finite resources to devote to each pillar of defence. If we chose to invest more resources in one pillar, we would be able to take stronger actions and have a better defence against certain types of attacks. However, the trade-off is that we would have less for the other pillars. If some pillars are neglected, the entire country would still be vulnerable to crises. To keep Singapore strong, we need to ensure that we have an all-round defence. In the game, while there is no way to increase the 11 points that can be distributed across the pillars, there is a card – Galvanised People – that can help overcome these constraints. This also highlights the importance of Singaporeans standing together and having the resolve to face all threats and challenges as one people. This is key to strengthening all five pillars of TD – military, civil, economic, social and psychological.

2. How do you use the "Galvanised People" card?

The "Galvanised People" card has no effect on its own. It can be paired with another Action card, and it allows that Action card to be played regardless of National Effort requirements.

Use of this card counts as "playing one card", so it will have to be one out of the two Action Cards you are playing during your turn. This card is also discarded after use.

3. Can a country/team choose not to play any Action cards?

Yes. If the country does not have suitable cards to play, they can skip Step 2 [Play up to 2 Action cards and update Counter-Terrorism Points] and continue with Step 3 [Discard (optional) and draw Action cards to maintain a hand of 4 Action cards].

4. Do Action cards affect both countries/teams?

No, it only affects the active country/team.

5. Do the Crisis cards affect only the active country/team?

No. It can affect both countries/teams. You will have to look at the description on the cards. There are some Crisis cards that only affect the country/team with the lowest National Effort Level for a particular TD pillar.

6. What happened if a Crisis card that indicates "Affects country with the lowest National Effort" is drawn and both countries/teams have the same national effort level for the TD pillar?

If both countries/teams have the same National Effort level for the TD pillar, then both countries/teams will get hit by the crisis, and the effects will apply to both countries/teams.

7. If there are no Fanatic cards in play and the Terrorist Attack cards are drawn, do you discard the Terrorist Attack cards?

No. When a Terrorist Attack card appears, it does not take effect immediately. It has to be paired with a Fanatic card for it to work. Just leave it face-up on the table next to the Terrorist Cells, and continue with the game first. Only when a Fanatic card appears, apply its effects and discard both cards.

If you open several Terrorist Attack cards but still have no Fanatic card, leave them open on the table and continue with the game. Once a Fanatic card appears, the earliest Terrorist Attack card drawn is used first and then discarded with the Fanatic card.

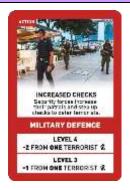
The reverse is also true if you draw a Fanatic card before getting any Terrorist Attack card.

8. At the end of the game, who wins if both countries/teams have the same final score?

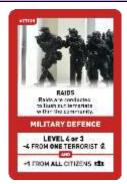
If both countries/teams have the same final score, both countries/teams share the victory.

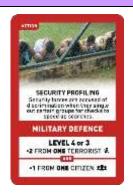
ACTION CARDS AT A GLANCE

ACTION CARDS



















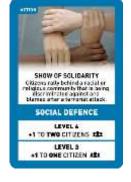




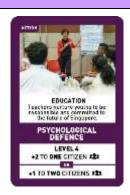


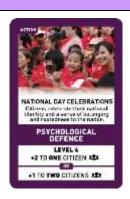






ACTION CARDS







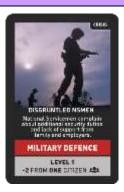


Special Action Card



CRISIS CARDS AT A GLANCE

CRISIS CARDS















CRISIS CARDS













Special Crisis Cards









READING MATERIALS

This is a selection of resources that exemplify and portray TD-related issues. You may use them to facilitate classroom discussions with your participants. You can also encourage your participants to look out for similar resources in newspapers, magazines, and on social media.

SYDNEY SIEGE

What Happened

On 15 December 2014, Sydney's Lindt Chocolate Café was hit by a siege that left two hostages dead. Café patrons were held as hostages for more than 16 hours.

Who Did It

Man Haron Monis was an Iranian refugee who moved to Australia in 1996. He had a known history of violence, extremism and mental instability.

During the Incident

Monis forced hostages to make calls to the media to relay his demands for the release of hostages. The hostages were told to display an Islamic flag at the café window which triggered fears of a militant attack. However, the Australian government said that Monis was not linked to any known terrorist organisations.

The Aftermath

Australia was in a state of shock at the siege, but in response, a social media hashtag #illridewithyou started trending as Australians offered to ride public transport with any Muslim. This social media movement aimed to show that the Australians were united against anti-Muslim sentiment in the wake of fears that the Sydney Siege was linked to Islamist terrorism.

Sources:

The Straits Times. "Sydney siege: Police storm café and confirm that siege has ended", 15 Dec 14.

The Straits Times. "Sydney siege: Internet world hails trending Twitter hashtag #illridewithyou, slams selfies at scene", 15 Dec 14.

The Straits Times. "Sydney siege: Police storm café to save lives after gunshots were heard; gunman, 2 hostages killed", 16 Dec 14.

THE PARIS ATTACKS

What Happened

On 13 November 2015, Paris came under siege when gunmen and bombers attacked restaurants, a sports stadium, and a concert hall, claiming the lives of more than 120 victims.

Who Did It

The extremist organisation Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) claimed responsibility in a video statement for the multiple attacks, the bloodiest attack in Europe since 2004.

During the Incident

According to reports, four gunmen killed at least 87 youths attending a rock concert at the Bataclan Concert Hall. Five other attacks across Paris, including suicide bombings that occurred outside the French national stadium, where the French President Francois Hollande was watching a friendly football match, killed an additional 40 people.

The Aftermath

The initial shock in Paris gave way to a strong show of solidarity by Parisians. Memorial sites sprung up at the scenes of the attacks, covered by flowers. Worldwide, iconic buildings and national monuments such as the Sydney Opera House and London's Tower Bridge were covered in the blue, white and red colours of the French flag as the world stood in solidarity with the French.

Sources:

The Straits Times. "Paris attacks: Toll rises to 128 dead, 99 critically injured; 8 assailants killed after multiple terror strikes", 14 Nov 15.

The Straits Times. "Paris attacks: ISIS claims responsibility for terror strikes", 14 Nov 15.

The Straits Times. "Paris attacks one week on: What we know so far", 20 Nov 15.

THE JAKARTA ATTACK

What Happened

On 14 January 2016, Jakarta was hit by a terrorist attack that left eight people dead and more than 20 injured.

Who Did It

ISIS issued a statement taking responsibility for the attack, in which they explicitly aimed to target foreign nationals and security forces in Jakarta.

During the Incident

Armed fighters attacked a Starbucks cafe located in the heart of Jakarta near the popular Sarinah shopping centre, with four out of the five fighters successfully blowing themselves up.

The Aftermath

The day after the attack, Indonesians united behind the slogan, "We are not afraid" (Kami Tidak Takut). They chanted the slogan and sang the Indonesian national anthem while marching from Sarinah shopping centre to the Starbucks where the attack took place. They also placed flowers and prayed at the sites. Their show of solidarity also spread on social media through the hashtag #KamiTidakTakut.

Sources:

The Straits Times. "ISIS behind deadly Jakarta attack", 15 Jan 16.

The Straits Times. "'We are not afraid': Indonesians unite against terrorism after Jakarta attacks", 15 Jan 16.

The Straits Times. "Indonesian President Jokowi to discuss terror prevention efforts", 19 Jan 16.

THE NICE ATTACK

What Happened

During the Bastille Day (14 July 2016) celebrations in Nice, France, a 19-tonne truck ploughed through a crowd of firework spectators. Approximately 84 people were killed and 50 were left in critical condition following the attack.

Who Did It

The attack was carried out by Mohamed Lahouaiej-Bouhlel, a 31-year old French of Tunisian descent. Lahouaiej-Bouhlel was shot dead by police during the attack.

On 16 July 2016, ISIS claimed the attack. However, authorities said that while Lahouaiej-Bouhlel was known to be a violent man, he did not appear to have links to radical Islamic ideology.

Sources:

The Straits Times. "Attack in Nice: 84 dead including many foreigners, 50 people 'between life and death' says Francois Hollande", 15 Jul 16.

The Straits Times. "Attack in Nice: Truck driver 'a violent depressive who never went to mosque'", 16 Jul 16.

"BATAM ROCKET" INCIDENT

What Happened

On 5 August 2016, Indonesian authorities announced that they had arrested six Indonesian men who had been plotting with a Syrian-based Indonesian ISIS militant to launch a rocket attack from Batam to Singapore, targeting Marina Bay.

Who Did It

The six men, aged between 19 and 46 and mostly factory workers, were members of the terrorist group KGR @ Katibah GR and had been planning to attack buildings and busy areas including police offices.

The alleged leader of the group, Gigih Rahmat Dewa, took orders from Bahrun Naim, a key Indonesian extremist who had fought alongside ISIS in Syria.

Sources:

The Straits Times. "Stronger security for NDP; terrorism a long-term problem: Ng Eng Hen". 8 Aug 16. Today. "Singapore on alert after 6 terror suspects arrested in Batam over rockets plot". 6 Aug 16. The Business Times. "Indonesia arrests six suspects allegedly planning Singapore attack". 5 Aug 16.

SINGAPORE'S COUNTER-TERRORISM STRATEGY

Singapore's counter-terrorism strategy includes our security and community response.

Security Response

The SAF and the Home Team work together to strengthen their ability to prevent, detect, and respond to terror attacks.

The Army Deployment Force (ADF) was set up in 2016 to provide rapid response capabilities for counterterrorism efforts, alongside the Special Operations Task Force (SOTF) formed after the September 11 attacks. The SAF is also working with our defence engineers and scientists to equip these high readiness units with the technology to increase their ability to neutralise armed attackers.

The Home Team has intensified its counter-terrorism measures to boost security protection vigilance and response. These include the expansion of CCTV coverage in HDB blocks and common areas in the heartlands for better sense-making, the introduction of rules requiring stricter surveillance and screening measures for buildings and events, and the formation of dedicated police emergency response teams to react quickly and effectively in the event of an attack.

To realise the full potential of Singapore's security capabilities, the SAF and Home Team are also working closely with each other to share intelligence, establish joint operational commands, and conduct joint exercises.

Community Response

However, the threat of terrorism cannot be dealt with by security forces alone. We need a strong community response and this is why MHA started the SGSecure movement to sensitise, mobilise and train the community to play their part to prevent and deal with an attack. SGSecure also aims to build community cohesion and resilience, so that terrorism does not divide our society, and that we will be able to bounce back quickly as one people, should an attack take place.

SGSecure comprises three core components – Community Vigilance, Community Cohesion and Community Resilience. It is also closely linked to TD, our national framework for an all-round response to threats and challenges that Singapore may face. Launched in 1984, TD involves everyone playing a part in military, civil, economic, social and psychological defence, to build a strong, secure and cohesive nation that can deal with any crisis. SGSecure encourages Singaporeans to put the civil, social, and psychological aspects of TD into action as we fight the threat of terrorism together.

KEY TERMS

Community Strife

Disagreement and conflict within a community.

In January 2016, Minister for Communications and Information and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs Yaacob Ibrahim said that in the light of religious strife and terror attacks around the world, the community needs to speak with one rational, moderate voice against extremist ideas.

Counter-Terrorism

Offensive measures taken to prevent, deter, and respond to terrorism.

In October 2016, Singapore conducted its biggest island-wide counter-terrorism exercise to test the readiness of the SAF and Home Team procedures to neutralise any terror attacks should it happen. Singaporeans can also play a part by taking terror threats seriously and staying alert.

Cyber-Security

The technologies, processes and practices designed to protect networks, computers, programmes and data from attack, damage or unauthorised access.

In order to prevent potential malicious cyber-attacks, Singapore has launched a national cyber-security strategy. PM Lee, who unveiled this plan in October 2016, said that Singapore must aim to be a cyber-smart and cyber-safe nation.

Desensitised

When someone is made less sensitive about something by constant exposure to it.

As there are more and more reports about terrorism in the media, people are becoming increasingly desensitised to such news and might let their quard down.

Disgruntled

Displeased and discontented.

When a local telecommunications company's mobile data services were disrupted in 2015, many disgruntled customers voiced their unhappiness on the company's Facebook page.

Fanatic

A person filled with excessive zeal, especially for an extreme religious or political cause.

Anis Amri is the fanatic behind the Berlin attack on 19 December 2016. He intentionally drove into the Christmas market beside Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church at Breitscheidplatz. His aggressive and violent act left 12 people dead and 56 others injured.

Fear Mongering

Intentionally provoking panic and mistrust by spreading frightening gossip or stories.

As society becomes more connected on social media, there is a risk of netizens sharing rumours. This may create unnecessary panic and fear within the community.

Galvanised (people)

A group of people shocked or energised into taking action.

The Paris attacks in November 2015 galvanised Parisians to rally together to offer shelter to those who were afraid to travel home after the attacks. Also, applications to join the French army rose dramatically in the week following the attacks.

Lone Wolf (terrorist)

An individual who carries out violent attacks without any assistance from terrorist groups. He/she is usually self-radicalised and aligns himself/herself to an extremist cause. He/she usually uses ordinary objects to carry out attacks.

Lone wolf attacks are becoming common and are very difficult to prevent because the individuals usually operate alone and are often difficult to detect by security agencies.

Profiling

The selection of individuals for security checks based on physical or behavioural characteristics that are usually associated with terrorists. Profiling is usually done to assist in identifying categories of people.

While profiling may speed up searches and investigations, it can cause unhappiness amongst certain individuals/communities who may feel like they have been unfairly targeted.

Resilience

The ability of a country to overcome threats and challenges by enduring and bouncing back from a crisis. Singapore is resilient when all the pillars of Total Defence are strong.

Singapore has gone through many crises which we were able to successfully overcome. For example in 2008, Singapore was able to recover quickly from the global financial crisis because of the resilience of our economy.

Self-Radicalisation

A process where an individual is influenced by extremist ideology and inspired to take action in support of the cause. Often, these individuals are self-radicalised by online material.

In May 2015, a 19-year-old self-radicalised Singaporean student planned to join ISIS and organise attacks in Singapore.

Solidarity

A sense of cohesion and unity within a certain group of people.

In 2014, three Australians died during a hostage crisis. Some Australians took to social media to ensure local Muslims felt safe from a potential backlash. They started tweeting the hashtag #illridewithyou to show that they were standing in solidarity with the local Muslims.

Sympathisers

Someone who agrees with or supports a sentiment, opinion or ideology.

Mas Selamat was Singapore's most-wanted terrorist after he escaped from Whitley Road Detention Centre in February 2008. He was later found in Johor, Malaysia. It was reported that several sympathisers helped Mas Selamat to avoid being found and arrested by the authorities.

Terrorism

The unlawful use of violence and intimidation to inculcate fear, sow discord and spread mistrust, especially against civilians.

On 14 January 2016, multiple explosions and gunfire were reported near a shopping mall in central Jakarta, Indonesia. One blast went off in a Starbucks café and another went off at a police post outside the mall. This act of terrorism was the first major attack in Jakarta since the bombings in 2009.

Terrorist

An individual who uses violence, terror, and intimidation to achieve a result in support of extremist ideological goals.

Bahrun Naim, an Indonesian terrorist who joined ISIS in 2014, was the mastermind behind the attempt to launch a rocket at Marina Bay from Batam in August 2016.

CREDITS

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