



RAVEN'S CHALLENGE UPDATE

GLOBAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL SYMPOSIUM & EXHIBITION





NDIA 100

VIDEO

Video Rollup From 2018

www.psbseod.com



Participant and OC Agencies

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- ▣ Raven's Challenge is a multi-agency, international, full scale interoperability exercise
- ▣ State and Local Public Safety Bomb Squads (PSBS)
- ▣ Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) units from all services and the National Guard
- ▣ Federal Agencies
 - ATF
 - FBI
 - DHS TSA



(U) Event Demolitions



Operations Overview

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- ▣ **Typically Average 16-20 Combined Teams**
 - Each team will receive 5-6 training lane types
- ▣ **Week Long Event**
 - Sunday: Travel and Registration
 - Monday: Welcome Brief, Familiarization, Social Event
 - Tuesday - Thursday: Downrange Operations
 - Wednesday: **VIP/DV Day**
 - Thursday: Last Event Set, Final AAR
 - Friday: Travel



(U) Robotics Used in UAS Mitigation



Accomplishments / Validity

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- ▣ NBSCAB – Approved 40 hours of bomb technician proficiency training for Raven’s Challenge participants.
- ▣ DA Pamphlet 611-105 – Recognizes Raven’s Challenge as an EOD Team Leader Certification reassessment event.
 - A 40 hour training certificate will be issued to all participants on Friday.
- ▣ NATO Recognized International CIED Exercise



Historical Participation

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Year	Military EOD	State/Local PSBS	International Participants	OC/Staff	Total
RC IX - 2015	380	510	8	206	1104
RC X - 2016	200	157	19	435	811
RC XI - 2017	223	164	35	637	1059
RC XII - 2018	190	185	30	350	755
RC XIII - 2019	169	178	31	382	760

- ▣ 2015 had two distinct registrations for all lanes; therefore had high participation rates
- ▣ After 2015, per overwhelming participant and OC feedback, we minimized team size to maximize exercise value for each participant
- ▣ Continued to increase International outreach
- ▣ Added instructional lanes and increased “training” aspect each year



Completed 2019 Venues

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▣ 2019 Venues

Location	Date
Camp Blanding, Starke, FL	10-15 March 2019
State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY	7-12 April 2019
YMCA of the Rockies, Winter Park, CO	5-10 May 2019
Muscatatuck Urban Training Center, IN	9-14 June 2019

▣ New Scenarios Highlights

- Subterranean Operations
- UAS Directional Fragmentation device
- 3D Printed Devices



(U) EOD/PSBS Interoperability, IED Approach



(U) Transportation Accident/Disposal



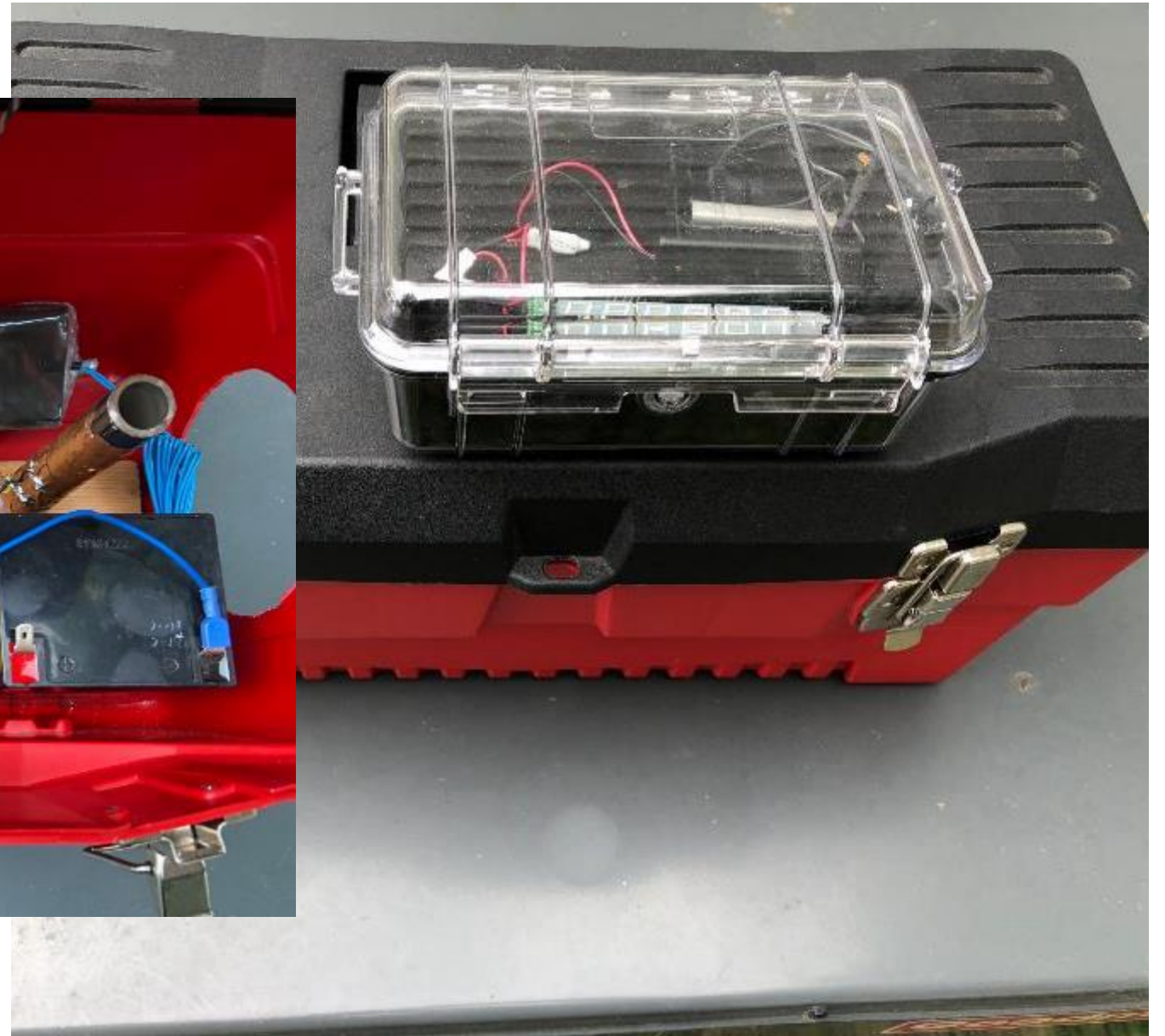
(U) UAS with Improvised Bomblet



(U) Downloading suspicious device from 747

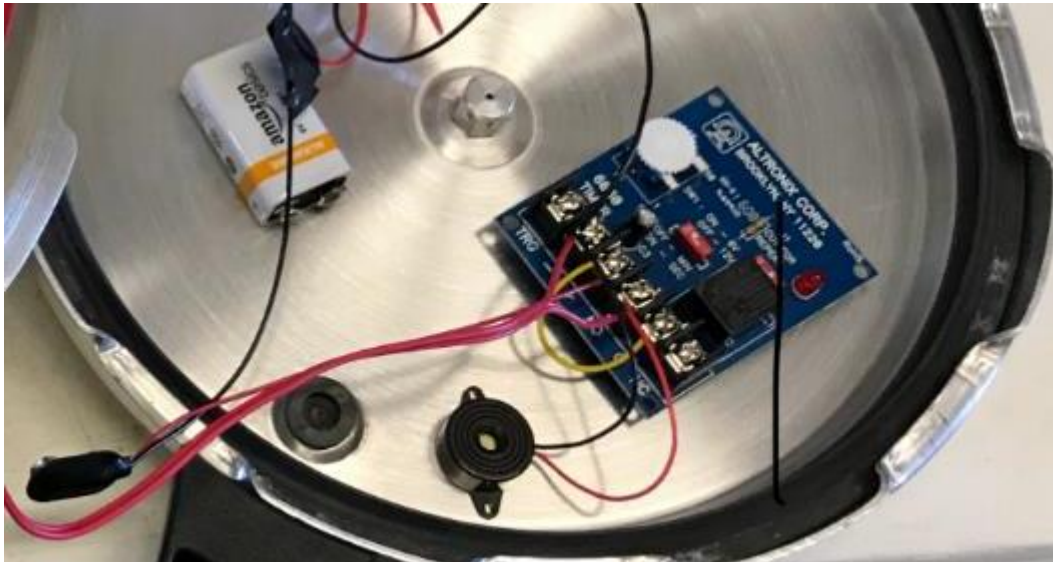


(U) Hand Entry Hostage Device





(U) Large Scale Demolition



(U) Pressure Cooker Device



(U) Procedure in progress to preserve safe contents



Capabilities of Raven's Challenge

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- ▣ Ability to turn on a dime – Happens today – Train tomorrow
- ▣ Emerging threats – Tip of the spear
 - Incorporating more COTS items into scenarios
 - Incorporating programmable Arduino board devices
 - 3D printed device replicas
- ▣ Teams train with active CREW load sets
 - CREW TTPs will be based on the local interface
- ▣ What's not to like?
 - Fed, housed, ability to run CREW, ability to live fire, and we clean up



Positive Impacts of Raven's Challenge

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- ▣ CREW system utilization – Allows PSBS teams to gain experience
- ▣ Incorporating Mobile Bomb Arson Tracking System (*m*BATS) allows for real time incident reporting and reach back capability
- ▣ Use of better X-Ray systems have lead to better diagnostics
- ▣ Live firing energetic tools which some squads have never fired
- ▣ Interoperability not only for participants, but for the staff as well



2020 Raven's Challenge Venues

NDINTO

Location	Date
Camp Blanding, Florida	1-6 March 2020
Camp Gruber, Oklahoma	29 March - 3 April 2020
Camp Dodge, Iowa	26 April - 1 May 2020
Fort Devens, Massachusetts	31 May - 5 June 2020

- **Registration is now Open!**
- www.psbseod.com



(U) The MBTA's emergency training center located in South Boston



Please visit our webpage at www.psbseod.com

QUESTIONS ?

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