

Package & Letter Bomb Briefing

TRUE SECURITY INTEGRATION



A  **FIRSTSERVICE** COMPANY



PACKAGE & LETTER BOMB BRIEFING

Package Bombs

- Weight more than 12 ounces.
- Are more destructive than smaller letter bombs.
- Are sometimes in the form of an unsolicited gift(s) from unusual/unknown sources. This can include candy boxes and hollowed-out books.
- Require a larger evacuation area than letter bombs.
- Premises where the mailroom adjoins the computer room or communications room are vulnerable to this type of attack.

Letter Bombs

- Weigh less than 12 ounces and are more common than package bombs.
- Generally **do not** have as much widespread, destructive power as a package bomb.
- Have a blast that is confined to a smaller area.
- Require a smaller evacuation area.
- Are designed to injure one or more individuals and **not** cause widespread damage.
- Often injure non-targeted individuals who open mail for targeted persons.
- Size, shape, and components vary.
- Can be simple, basic, or very sophisticated utilizing electric and non-electric detonating caps.
- Sometimes have more than one trigger so as to injure/trap anyone trying to defuse it.
- Usually are designed to detonate upon opening.

Recognition

- The key is to recognize those packages and letters that should **not** be opened.

Amateurs

- Use less sophisticated, crude devices.

Professionals

- Terrorists use more sophisticated and harder to detect devices.



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Suspicious/Suspect Mail & Packages

This includes:

- Unrequested and non-routine mail.
- Unsolicited gifts from unknown sources.
- Certain types of foreign mail.
- Items that have been sent via 'Air Mail', 'Express Mail', or 'Special Delivery'. In the bomber's mind, this conveys urgency and importance, which will encourage the target to open the bomb. It also attracts attention.
- Items marked 'Personal' and/or 'Confidential'.
- Items with excessive postage.
- Post marks that **do not** match the return address, or the absence of a return address.
- A letter or package that looks 'different' and stands out from the regular mail (e.g., a handwritten address).

Upon Locating an Item

- Evacuate the area. Shallow for letter-size pieces, deeper for packages.
- Leave the doors open for venting and dissipation of the explosive force.
- A supervisor should check with the intended recipient of the letter/package for clarification.
- If the recipient is unable to offer any clarification, call the police to deal with the suspect item.
- Follow the instructions given by the police. **Do not** re-enter the area, where the device is located, until told to do so by the police.

Other Hints

- **Do not** cover the item.
- **Do not** immerse the item in water.
- **Do not** handle the item more than necessary. It **may** be acceptable to move it to an isolated area.
- **Do not** open the item.
- **Do not** shake or rattle the item.

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