



Should I report it?

a security checklist for critical infrastructure



Taking notes



Is the person **TAKING NOTES** of security vulnerabilities?

History shows operatives often make notes of security vulnerabilities when planning an attack. Things of interest include the timing of events, parking areas, security arrangements and hiding spots.

Case Study—In 2001 US forces discovered parts of four notes in Afghanistan. These notes contained information on the shuttle bus service in Singapore which ferried US military personnel to the Yishun Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) station. The notes contained information on things like the frequency of the shuttle bus and the nature of the traffic system. It is believed the notes were part of a 1999 Jemaah Islamiah plot to attack the MRT.



No photographic interest



Do video and photo subjects have **NO credible PHOTOGRAPHIC INTEREST**?

Operatives place high value on video and photographic surveillance when planning an attack.

Case Study—In 2000 an Australian al-Qa'ida operative videoed the Israeli Embassy in Canberra and Israeli Consulate in Sydney. The sort of footage he took would have been of little interest to tourists. The operative was convicted on charges of planning a terrorist attack.



No legitimate reason



Does the person have **NO LEGITIMATE REASON** for being in an area?

Surveillance operatives may need to put themselves in suspicious situations to get the intelligence they need to plan an attack.

Case Study—Four Jemaah Islamiah members conducted surveillance of water pipelines from Malaysia to Singapore. Posing as joggers, they travelled to the Bukit Timah Reserve. Two members then acted as look-outs while two others took photographs of the pipeline. This behaviour would have looked suspicious to passers by.



Collecting information



Is the person **COLLECTING INFORMATION** from promotional literature or inquiring about security?

When planning an attack operatives place a high value on information about a target, particularly from the media, Internet and the target itself.

Case Study—Al-Qa'ida casing notes seized in Pakistan in 2004 displayed extensive use of the Internet and publicly available sources such as newspapers and other publications to obtain background information on US companies for a possible terrorist attack.



Travelling without purpose



Is the person **TRAVELLING** erratically and **WITHOUT** any real **PURPOSE**?

Surveillance operatives sometimes travel past potential targets erratically because it is difficult to gain clear vision.

Case Study—While videoing the Israeli Embassy in Canberra in 2000, an Australian al-Qa'ida operative drove by the building several times. His vehicle slowed down to pass the compound to enable better vision inside, then accelerated after passing. On one occasion, his vehicle actually stopped, reversed and remained stationary for a period of time to enable a static shot of the compound.



Testing security



Does the person appear to be **TESTING SECURITY**?

Operatives will usually test security before an attack.

Case Study—The four suicide bombers involved in the terrorist attack in London in July 2005 reportedly staged a dummy run of their devastating attack. The four men visited their designated targets on the the London Underground in late June. The reconnaissance was later discovered by officers reviewing security camera footage.

If the answer is YES to any of the above, report it to the:

National Security Hotline
1800 123 400
an Australian Government Initiative

