Counter Terrorism Operations Support

Special Activities Support: An Overview

Introduction:

The U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration's Nevada Test Site (NTS) offers a wide range of training scenarios and "one-of-a-kind" test beds. The Special Activities Support (SAS) group hosts an array of military and other training activities at the NTS.

Multi-Purpose Training Complex (MPTC):

The NTS is an extremely large, secure, and isolated location with extensive desert/mountain terrain. With restricted air space and more than 1,375 square miles surrounded by federal land, the NTS is ideally suited to host classified combating terrorism operations and integrated exercises. Permits are in place for high-hazard projects. Inside the NTS complex is a wide range of existing infrastructure that includes operational air strips, industrial-type facilities for exercises, and an extensive tunnel complex. The abundance of varying terrain, developed target sets, and known-distance shooting ranges make the NTS an ideal training location. A fully functional and secluded forward base (with dormitory-type barracks, cafeteria, and support buildings) provides a secure and isolated operations site.

Facilities at the NTS include an Exercise Management Center complete with an Emergency Operations Center, large classrooms, video teleconference capability, and televiewing of remote exercise areas. The MPTC and Exercise Areas provide opportunities for live-fire training in desert/mountain terrain for military and other customers.

Additional live-fire areas provide moving and pop-up targets and an explosive door breaching rack. The NTS has existing airstrips, tunnels and an extensive network of roads. These realistic venues provide opportunities for challenging, complex training for military and other government units.

Other NTS training capabilities include an ordnance testing facility for combat systems testing and explosives experimentation. The Big Explosives Experimental Facility (BEEF) allows up to 70,000 pounds of net explosive weight with high-speed photo optics and diagnostics capability. The Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex allows the open-air release of Hazardous Materials, an excellent venue for chemical and biological training. The T-1 site includes ten crash scenarios with more than fifty props to simulate radiological transportation incidents.

The SAS group supports mobility training, land navigation, readiness training exercises, close-quarter combat, marksmanship, demolition, and patrol training. The uniqueness of the NTS facility allows for the integration of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, live-fire, close air support, and aerial operations into training activities.

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