

ICAM - INFORMATION COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT

AIM OF COURSE

ICAM is designed to equip security professionals with relevant core field skills assessed as essential to achieving and maintaining enhanced situational awareness of security environments. This course therefore aims to increase the capabilities of security professionals beyond standard physical security / SOP compliance already covered by existing training programs. A key aim is to fill identified security training gaps with a focus on practical field proven approaches essential for threat avoidance and enhanced mitigation across the spectrum of low to high threat international field environments.

It is the underlying premise of this course that avoidance through enhanced situational awareness is superior to mitigation via solely physical defences or procedures. A threat cannot be properly identified or monitored without adequate situational awareness and understanding. Indeed, without situational awareness the defensive initiative and opportunity to avoid a threat entirely is lost; leaving only mitigation through physical security or emergency responses.

At its core the proposed training aims to equip security professionals with the skills to implement intelligent pre-emptive security; rather than rely solely upon static tick box physical / procedural defences. Training areas identified as key to achieving enhanced situational awareness include: Digital and human information collection, human network creation, formal and informal liaison; open source exploitation, analysis and information management and security.

IDENTIFIED TRAINING NEED

The security information landscape is an area that often receives little to no training, guidance or support. Indeed, this oversight of required information skills is arguably compounded by and reflected in an absence of information skills required within security operator job specifications. If recognised at all; the skills necessary to properly collect and analyse daily security environment information are often formerly divided into fragmented specialist roles such as liaison officer and mission analyst; but rarely unified to reflect the reality on the ground of skills needed by individual security professionals often working alone and expected by default to fill the additional roles of information collector, networker, liaison and analyst.

Individual security operators are often left to navigate this overlooked important security space using solely individual skills in human networking and analysis of varying competence; and notably without a baseline training level. Indeed, it is security information, resulting situational awareness and understanding that are primary means of maintaining meaningful security in the field. Only through situational awareness can threats be avoided and pre-emptive security mitigation implemented.

BACKGROUND OF THE MENTORS AND TRAINING CONCEPT

The proposed course trainers together bring a collection of real world security and information experience from specialist governmental digital information exploitation; and high risk field security information collection and analysis experience relevant to field operations. All mentors have significant proven training experience and therefore able to meet the challenge of effectively communicating practical applied expertise.

The proposed course draws lessons and trainer expertise directly from previous specialist training programs delivered by the course trainers in field information collection, analysis and information management skills; delivered predominately only to select specialists. Further experience is taken directly from mentors and the course designer of the unique annual Swedish Folke Bernadotte Academy 'IIC' (Information and Intelligence Cooperation) course aimed at increasing information skills; sharing and coordination between the full spectrum of Civ / Mil / Gov / UN / EU / NGO / Journalist actors. The combined training foundations and expertise along with the ability to customise for the client direct needs make for a powerful and unique security training opportunity.

COURSE CURRICULUM

This course is proposed as a 5 day training at a facility outside Stockholm (1,5h), utilising 4 mentors from specialist backgrounds and experiences in the following security areas:

- Information Collection
 - Building Relationships
 - Structured Conversations
 - Formal and Informal networks
 - Building Networks
 - Formal Liaison
 - Strategies
 - Network experiences from the field

- Information Management
 - 'Intelligence' vs 'Knowledge'
 - Classified Information
 - Source and Information Grading
 - Network management
 - Intelligence Cycle / Process
 - Collection Plans

- Security Analysis
 - Lessons learnt
 - Risk
 - Probability
 - Threat Analysis
 - Tools

- Data Security
 - Introduction to data security
 - Field relevant personal data vulnerabilities
 - Open Source mitigation tools
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 - Open Source mitigation tools

- Social Media Exploitation
 - Methodology & tools for social media based investigations; building profiles & mapping networks.
 - Awareness of the wider social media landscape beyond Facebook and Twitter
 - Awareness of information traces left behind on social media services.
 - Example of trace exploitation
 - Awareness of targeting methods that can be used against you

- ONINF / OSINT Data Mining
 - Open Source internet search tools and strategies
 - Practical laptop-based exercise applying OSINT tools