



REPORT ON

**"NEXTGEN POLICING –
TERRORISM: RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION (25/30)"
14.09.2025 - 19.09.2025
(IBZ SCHLOSS GIMBORN)**

BY:

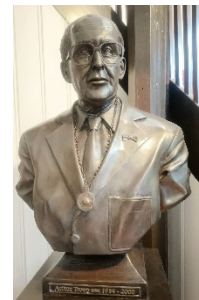
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(ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE – 2025)**

REPORT ON SEMINAR "NEXTGEN POLICING - TERRORISM: RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION (25/30)" AT IBZ SCHLOSS GIMBORN FROM 14.09.2025 TO 19.09.2025

International Police Association (IPA), a platform of networking and friendship, creates various opportunities, for its members, to make friends and foster exchange of professional knowledge and skills through various events, educational seminars and conferences convened in different countries. It awards Arthur Troop Scholarship (ATS) every year to the IPA members for their capacity building in the law enforcement fields. In this connection, the IPA has established the IBZ Schloss Gimborn (Germany) that conducts professional seminars for law enforcement officers (LEOs) including IPA members to achieve its objectives.



I am a person who always look for opportunities in quest of improving my professional knowledge and skills. I acquired knowledge and skills in the craft of law enforcement and its related fields in different part of the world and also remained involved in imparting training at police training institutes in my country and in UN peacekeeping mission. In pursuit of my keen desire, I applied for the Arthur Troop Scholarship (ATS). I am one of those lucky candidates who got ATS for the year 2025. Out of 41 offered seminars, I exclusively picked up the seminar titled "**NextGen Policing – Terrorism: Response and Investigation**" to have deep insight into the current international practices to combat terrorism. Upon confirmation, I arrived IBZ Schloss Gimborn and participated in the Seminar from 14th September to 19th September, 2025.



DAY – 1: (14.09.2025)

Ms. Ulrike Hoffman welcomed 14 seminar participants from the different countries and gave a brief overview of the seminar. Mr. Philip Kurz, President IPA Germany, gave a detailed presentation on the IPA structure and explained functions of different IPA

commissions including IR Commission, Professional Commission, Socio-Cultural Commission, etc. It enriched knowledge of the participants. He pointed out various techniques to increase IPA



membership and improve networking among the members.

DAY – 2: (15.09.2025)

The second-day opened with Mr. Martijn Bijlsma's lecture on "Psychology of Terrorism"; "Understanding the Terrorist Planning Cycle"; "Types of Terrorism" including ideological terrorism, thematic terrorism, lone-wolf attacks etc. The speakers threw light on different dimensions of terrorism in a befitting manner. Subsequently, he proceeded with four phases of radicalization (Pre-radicalization, self-actualization, indoctrination and action). He explained the use of internet and dark web for criminal activities and unfolded different techniques that law enforcement officers can use to detect nefarious designs and activities of criminals involved in organized crime and terrorism. The next topic "Metadata and Digital Traces" contained valuable information regarding five steps of info cycle (identifying the sources, harvesting/collecting info, processing of info, carrying out analysis and reporting). He further elaborated active and passive data.

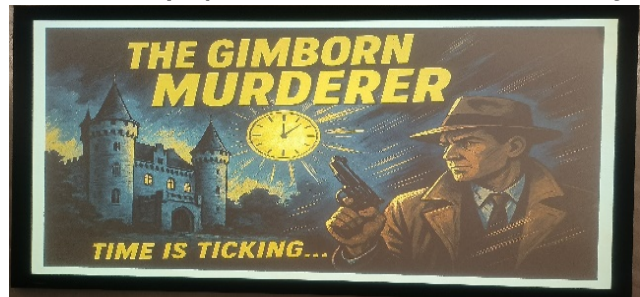
Mr. Bryan defined 8 steps of terrorists' planning cycle starting from marking the target followed by information gathering; surveillance; planning; tooling up; dry-run exercise; execution and culminating at the getaway. The role of open-source Intelligence (OSINT) was also mentioned. He made teams and engaged them in different activities concerning these steps. The systematic linking and explaining each step hinted to work on the forthcoming murder game.

Indeed, it was a day that added knowledge on various manifestations of terrorism and proactive techniques to tackle it. Mr. Martijn and Mr. Bryan successfully involved the trainees in group activities and question-answer sessions.



DAY – 3: (16.09.2025)

The third-day training triggered a series of inter-linked activities that lasted till the end of the Seminar. A 7-members team of trainers (Bryan Sweberath Misser, Martijn Bijlsma, Trent Van Waas, Thimo Plug, Robin Blansjaar, James Avery and Dario van Kessel) started the third day's activities regarding "Gimborn Murderer" that triggered a series of inter-linked scenarios that successfully concluded on the last day of the seminar. Mr. Robin, Mr. Thimo and Mr. Trent briefed about the forthcoming scenario. They threw light on Dark Web Sandbox (digital intelligence collection tools and techniques, etc.).



Later, the trainees were divided into four teams: two teams played role of good guys and two teams as bad guys (red/green teams). It was interesting to note that each team was perfectly unaware of other teams' assigned role. It was a mystery to solve a mystery. The teams started working on the scenario on their laptops and mobile phones. Each team took deep interest in the Gimborn Murder puzzle. They were allowed to carry out survey of the venue and its surroundings to make a plan to execute it either as a red team or as a green team. The trainers created different scenarios and imparted practical training on



arresting a criminal. In this exercise, the trainees were provided with handcuffs and dummy pistols.

As a part of the scenario, Mr. Dario imparted physical training on hands-on-combat. The trainees were delighted to take part in this activity. The evening activities on the Gimborn Murderer game took place in the castle at 20:00 hrs. Each team was busy in collecting evidence even in nocturnal area to work on their target. All the four teams were pursuing leads on computers and in the area. The third day's activities concluded on debriefing at the honesty bar.

Briefly speaking, it was a day that contained activities which stirred physical and mental faculties of the trainees.

DAY – 4: (17.09.2025)

It was a day of carrying on working on the "murder game" followed by a "field trip to Cologne" to carry out on-foot surveillance and counter surveillance exercise. First, the four teams kept on working on their assigned missions at various locations of the training facility to carry on their planning in a clandestine manner. They worked on different steps enunciated in the terrorists' planning cycle.



As per the schedule, the teams led by the trainers left for Cologne by bus in the afternoon to carry out on-foot surveillance and counter surveillance. Mr. Bryan briefed about the exercise and the teams set on exercise in public in Cologne. Each team had a target to be chased to observe and collect information about his activities in an unobtrusive way. Our team employed ABC technique of surveillance to carry it out professionally. This hours-long on-foot surveillance activity ended in the vicinity of the Cologne Cathedral (Kolner Dom). After having dinner in Cologne, the trainers and trainees came back to Gimborn.



The fourth day was full of activities pertaining to murder puzzle and surveillance to practically engage in actions defined in the terrorists' planning cycle.

DAY – 5: (18.09.2025)

It was again an important day in term of crucial activities exclusively related to VIP protection and debriefing on the last day's surveillance session. The trainers debriefed on the surveillance and counter surveillance exercise and pointed out different actions of the surveillance teams that can be avoided to make the shadowing effective and meaningful.

Subsequently, full-scale scenario exercise on VIP protection and extraction was conducted in two parts. In the first part, out of the four teams, two teams actively participated one as attacker and the other one as LEOs. Amid the deployment of security personnel, the attacker team launched assault on the VIP in the staged scenario but the LEOs succeeded in neutralizing the attackers and extracting the VIP.



In the second part of the scenario, in which I took part as a member of the attacker team, we minutely planned the assault and succeeded on targeting the VIP in spite of minute search of the venue and careful deployment of the security staff. In both parts of the exercise, Mr. James performed the role of VIP in a highly professional manner.

The trainers who were acting as observers of the two parts of the exercise debriefed the trainees highlighting strong and weak features of the planning and execution phases. The debriefing points will help us in making flawless VIP security plans in future.

Due to departure of trainees in the morning, it was decided to hold the final assessment and course evaluation in the evening. The trainees took objective test and

gave their feedback on the seminar online. All the trainees successfully qualified the test. Therefore, they were awarded course completion certificates. The trainees rated the quality of training as "**Excellent**".

DAY – 6: (19.09.2025)

On the last day of the Seminar (19.09.2025), the trainers and trainees gathered in the classroom and discussed the overall training activities. These were the moments when trainers and trainees, having developed friendship ties, bid farewell to one another and left for their homelands.

TAKEAWAYS:

I have attended a good number of trainings both at national and international level. Precisely speaking, I pen down a few salient features of the seminar:

- i. The quality of training content and trainers' method of teaching is praise-worthy. Indeed, they enhanced knowledge and skills of the participants.
- ii. The training is focused on theoretical and practical learning. Each theoretical part was followed by a practical/exercise part. The blend of the two learning techniques made the seminar positively different from the professional trainings that I have attended so far.
- iii. The commitment of the trainers infused spirit among us to work on the exercises enthusiastically. They were with us at every step of the exercises, briefing us, observing our activities minutely and guiding, if required, and debriefing us at the end of each exercise.
- iv. The trainers provided the trainees with all the necessary gadgets required to carry out exercises. It helped in conducting the exercises smoothly and conveniently.
- v. The trainers gave small souvenirs to the trainees who gave suitable answer to their questions. This act motivated the trainees to take interest in the classroom activities with zeal.
- vi. The role of the management of IBZ Schloss Gimborn is highly appreciable as they managed everything commendably well to make the seminar a success.

- vii. The seminar was conducted in a conducive environment and the participants were provided with good accommodation facilities and fine food.
- viii. The 'Honesty Bar' is a nice place to have drinks including juices, coffee, chocolates, etc., intermingle with each other and play chess and other games after the dinner time.
- ix. The seminar provided us an opportunity to have new friends from different parts of the world.
- x. We had a chance to exchange beautiful souvenirs including shields, police badges, country flags, police uniform articles, etc. with trainers & trainees and IBZ Schloss management. These token of friendship will remind us of our IPA friends who were together at a learning forum at Gimborn.



At the end, I express my gratitude to the International Police Association for awarding me Arthur Troop Scholarship for the year 2025. I am highly indebted to Ms. Ulrike Hoffman who helped me in getting the visa for the seminar. It vividly bespeaks of her commitment to promote learning programs conducted at IBZ Schloss Gimborn and to achieve IPA goals.

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