

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

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ACTION OFFICE: *OPA/ £f7-[]*

AUTHOR: Richard McPherson

AFFILIATION: CA

ADDRESSEE: Chairman Resource

SUBJECT: Concerns a new post on NRC blog - Force-on-Force or was that a gunfight at a nuclear power plant

ACTION: Appropriate

DISTRIBUTION:

LETTER DATE: 01/15/2013

ACKNOWLEDGED No

SPECIAL HANDLING: Assigned to: OPA/EDO.

NOTES:

FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE:

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Joosten, Sandy

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From: RMcphe8888@aol .com  
Sent: Tuesday , January 15, 2013 9:10 AM  
To: 2x@downrangep2 .com; herring.tom@gmail.com ; tedquinn@cox .net; ken-schultz@cox .net  
Subject: Fwd: [New post] Force-on-Force or Was That a Gunfight at a Nuclear Power Plant?

Can these get out of hand? Yes!

When Ace Lyons (Admiral) formed what was publicly called "Red Cell" to test Navy security , we talked about places where deadly force was authorized to avoid a shoot out. Some people insisted they be included and then a Marine Sentry shot and killed a young Naval Officer running past a gate guard (because he was late) in Hawaii. That woke folks up about the meaning and use of deadly force. Right after 9/11, we talked about security at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants. We offered they use technology , instead the plants were forced to hire and average of 350 guards with guns. What a waste. Richard

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From: comment-reply@wordpress.com  
Reply-to: comment+eg8wshy\_83smmijxm5cv35-@comment.wordpress .com  
To: rmcphe8888@aol.com  
Sent: 1/15/2013 5:50:05 A.M. Pacific Standard Time  
Subj: [New post] Force-on-Force or Was That a Gunfight at a Nuclear Power Plant?

Moderator posted: "Clay JohnsonChief, Secmity Performance Evaluation Branch They are dressed in camouflage, fit and well-trained, and they creep quietly toward the perimeter of a nuclear power plant under cover of darkness. Their realistic weapons reflect dully in the moo"

Respond to this post by replying above this line

## New post on **U.S. NRC Blog**



[Force-on-Force or Was That a Gunfight at a Nuclear Power Plant?](#)

by Moderator

*Clay Johnson*  
*Chief, Security Performance Evaluation Branch*

They are dressed in camouflage , fit and well-trained, and they creep quietly toward the perimeter of a nuclear power plant under cover of darkness . Their realistic weapons reflect dully in the moonlight , but these weapons fire blank ammunition and lasers that record hits and misses .

Their goal? A particular target set within the plant which , if compromised , could impact the safety of the plant and the community that surrounds it. The target set this night? A closely guarded secret known only to the "armed intruders" and the NRC inspection team that includes active duty military members from the U.S. Special Operations Command.

The attacks will be repeated over the course of three days and nights so that different attack methods and various targets at each

nuclear power plant are tested. In each scenario, the plant's security personnel work to protect specific areas of the plant according to their facility's individual security plan. Each plant is tested in this manner every three years.

These force-on-force inspections have been part of the NRC inspection regime since 1991, but they were significantly beefed up and the frequency increased to every three years after Sept. 11, 2001. They are designed to assess the plant's ability to defend itself against the conditions put forth under the "design basis threat" or DBT. These inspections are in addition to the baseline security inspections performed by the NRC's regional inspectors and the inspections done daily by the NRC's resident inspectors. NRC security experts routinely review options for further enhancements to the program.

The details of what happens during a force-on-force inspection are not public due to the sensitive nature of security plans at the plants. If a deficiency is found during an inspection, the NRC inspectors stay on site until compensatory measures are put in place, and then the NRC reviews the plant's long-term plan to rectify the problem, and may issue violations. These violations are only discussed in a general way with the public.

The "bad guys" are part of what is called the Composite Adversary Force and they are contracted by the nuclear industry to perform these mock attacks to NRC specifications. The plant knows the force-on-force will occur at a specific date for safety and logistical purposes and to provide time to coordinate two sets of security offices – one to participate in the inspection and one to maintain the security posture of the plant. The mock attacks are also preceded by significant planning and on-site tabletop drills conducted by the NRC inspection team.

These realistic and physically intensive exercises are but one vehicle by which the NRC ensures the country's nuclear power plants and Category I fuel facilities are prepared and able to protect themselves. Meetings on possible additional enhancements to this inspection program will be announced in the future.

**Moderator** | Januar.: 15. 2013 :t 8:49 am Tag\_:: NRC. nuclear. security Catçumies: uclear Security | RI  
<http://wp.me/pIfSSY-VS>

**(ije)u!ui\$1ii** | [See all comments](#)

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