

BUILDING COLLAPSE

SAFETY CONCERNS

- o Consider possible hazardous materials.
- o Consider potential for secondary collapse.
- o **DO NOT** enter confined spaces without air monitoring.
- o Suspect a bombing if:
 - at a Target structure (government building, post office, school).
 - a bomb threat(s) was received in the area.
 - extensive damage is notable before reaching scene.
 - windows are broken out blocks away.
 - extensive damage to a vehicle in front of a structure
 - vehicle debris in roadway
 - anti-personnel shrapnel with multiple victims.

If bombing is suspected after removal of surface victims, withdraw to safe area until scene is cleared by bomb squad. **Beware of secondary devices.**

PRIORITY ACTIONS

- o **Request dispatch to page the Technical Rescue Team Leaders** (have them contact you by cell phone or OP's frequency).
- o Request Tower/Truck Company, City or County Public Works, Utility Company's response.
- o Establish collapse area and secondary collapse zones (utilize barricade tape).
- o Size-up and establish number of victims - **how many are trapped?**
- o Declare MCI as needed. Assign Medical Group. Determine triage zones.
- o Remove surface victims to triage location(s).
- o Recon entire area, draw diagram of area surveyed.
- o Interview occupants for information on people trapped in structure.
- o Establish likely survival areas considering building construction, cause of collapse, and location of possible void spaces.
- o Utilize thermal imaging to aid in search (victims may be covered by dust and/or debris).
- o Utilize standard search markings. See Special Considerations.
- o Initially stabilize area of trapped victim(s) with cribbing.