

(2-10)

1. Submitted by: HQ AFSPA/SPSS, Kirtland AFB NM
2. Operation/event name: Attempted Vandalism to an F-117A on Static Display at the Oshkosh Air Show, Nekemi, WI, Jul 90
3. Keywords: Security/Vandalism/Air Show
4. Title: Attempted Vandalism to an F-117A on Static Display at the Oshkosh Air Show, Nekemi, WI
5. Observation: At 1525, 28 July 1990, two female subjects attempted to damage an F-117A fighter aircraft on static display at the Oshkosh Air Show, at Whitman Field Airport, Nekemi, Wisconsin. Close Boundary Sentries (CBSs) assigned to the 128 AREFG Security Police, and posted at the aircraft, observed two individuals step across the aircraft boundary rope. One of the CBSs approached the subjects, advising them to step back across the rope. Subjects appeared to comply with the order; however, as the CBS continued towards the front of the aircraft, the subjects ran towards the aircraft while attempting to unfurl a banner. The CBS detained one of the subjects and called for assistance from the other CBS. The additional CBS responded and detained the second subject. Both subjects were detained in the immediate vicinity of the Pitot tubes at the front of the aircraft. One of the subjects threw what appeared to be ashes on the Pitot tubes. As they were escorted from the area, one of the subjects tried to grab one of the Pitot tubes. Both individuals were immediately removed from the area and searched. A search of the subjects revealed copies of several different newspaper articles on the F-117A role in the invasion of Panama. They also had a position paper, author unknown, on the F-117A basically criticizing the program cost and deadliness of the aircraft. The suspect's banner was made from a white bedsheet, painted with a picture of an F-117A with the words "Stealth means Death" and a series of "R.I.P."s across the bottom. The banner appeared to have been sprinkled with red paint or blood. ANG personnel contacted the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department who responded to the scene and took custody of the suspects. Both subjects were charged with disorderly conduct and trespassing and were detained pending the posting of a \$341 bond. They were still in custody 24 hours later. Ropes surrounding the aircraft were approximately 25 feet from the aircraft. The front line of spectators was approximately 90 feet long and 8-people deep. "No Trespassing" signs were posted on all four sides of the aircraft. Two aircrew members were stationed at the front line, on either side of the aircraft, one of whom was conducting a television interview. Two security police personnel were posted in front of the aircraft, approximately 25 feet from the crowd. The subjects crossed the boundary midway between both pilots. The Wisconsin Air National Guard security police personnel guarding the aircraft were full-time (AGR) personnel.
6. Discussion: The security force assigned to the aircraft was increased to a maximum of nine posts within the cordon, with an undercover patrol and a two-man response team. Media coverage included articles in the Oshkosh Wisconsin Northwestern and local television stations. The two subjects charged with trespassing were tasked to throw ashes on the aircraft as a symbol of "an instrument of death."
7. Lessons Learned: HQ AFOSP/SPO, in concert with HQ TAC/SP, sent a message on F-117A security procedures to all major commands and each of the other services. The message reiterated the existing procedures and established a second rope line (one for crowd control and one for legal demarcation of the restricted area). Additionally, security response force requirements were strengthened and local support requirements were elaborated upon.
8. Recommended Action: Insure compliance with enhanced security procedures.
9. OPR Comments: None