

What Will Keep Me Up at Night:

*Evolving Terrorist Threats and
Implications for Prehospital Providers*

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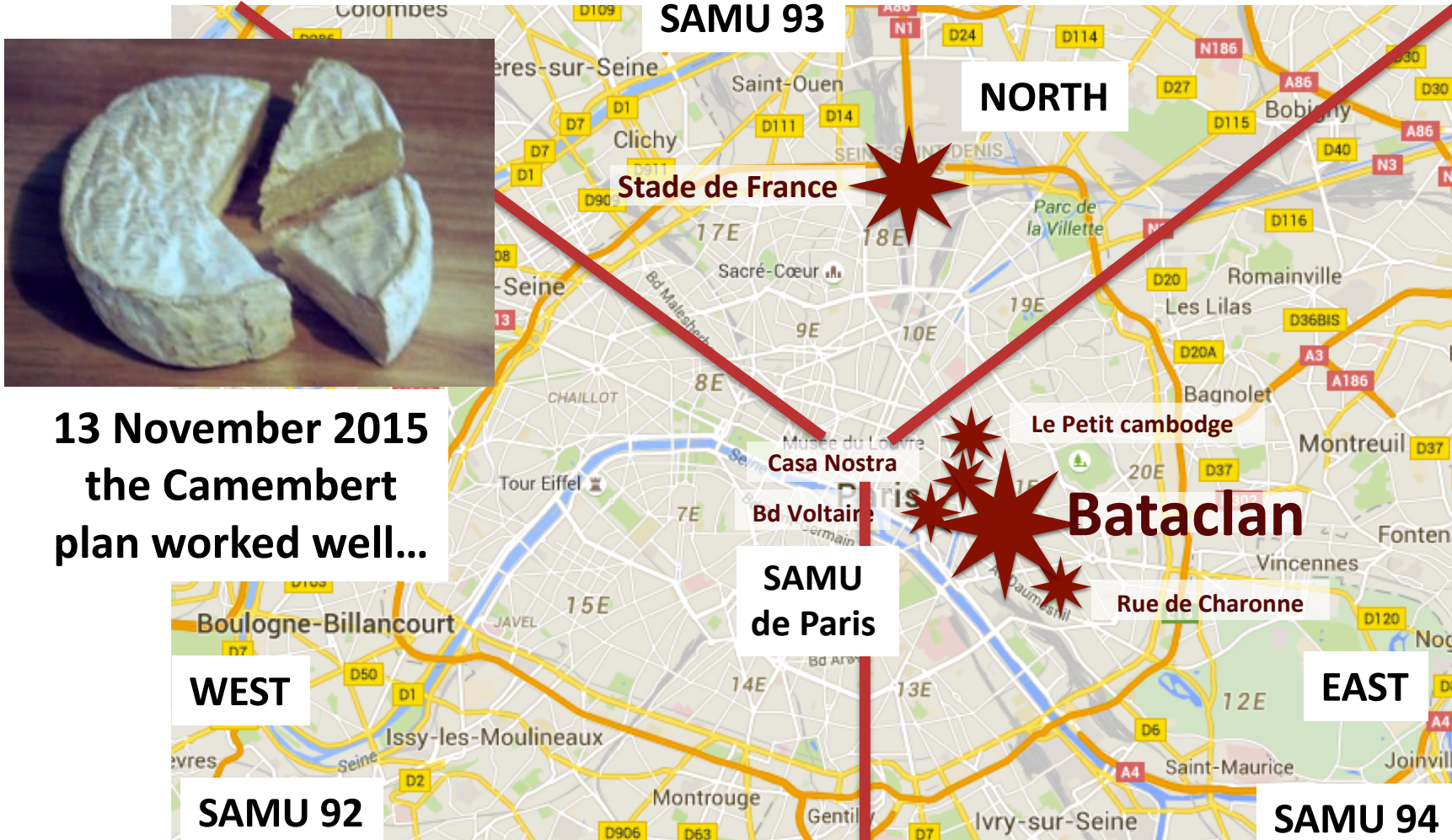
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In 2005 after Madrid and London bombings
the multisite multi modal terrorist attacks plan
kept me awake ...



3 more scenarios that will keep us up tonight

Beslan school

2004

- North Ossetia
- School party
- More than 1000 hostages



- Assault by army special forces
- 186 young children killed
- 150 others injured



Pediatric mass casualties

- Many pediatric victims requiring emergency surgery
- Specific triage and prehospital care
- Special pediatric plan
 - Pediatric facilities are limited
 - Inter hospital transports
 - Mobilization of all the resources
 - Back up of adult hospitals by pediatric teams
- In Paris AMAVI PED: A regional evacuation and care plan

Only hemorrhage ?

**Dubrovka Theatre
in Moscow 2002**



**Gas released by Police to neutralize terrorists
170 hostages killed by asphyxia 700 injured**

The “gas chamber” scenario

- Release of toxic gas (chlorine) in a confined space : theater , shopping mall ...
- Mass intoxication with acute asphyxia
- How to provide respiratory care to hundreds of victims suffocating at the same time ?
 - **Mouth to mouth impossible**
- A challenge for prehospital and hospital care
- In Paris : the “rescue breathing plan”

“Zombi attack” scenario



The “Zombi attack” scenario

- Spreading of a small amount of nerve gas (sarin) or NR
- Few dead on scene but many symptomatic victims
- A huge panic within a contaminated and contaminating crowd
- Fleeing the site and rushing on the rescue teams any nearby hospitals

The “Zombi attack” scenario

- On scene : Not enough time
 - to protect the EMS teams
 - to decontaminate victims
- In hospitals :
 - ER overwhelmed by contaminated victims
 - Panic effect leading to irrational reactions of victims and care givers
- In Paris:
 - The “**Damage control decontamination** ” plan

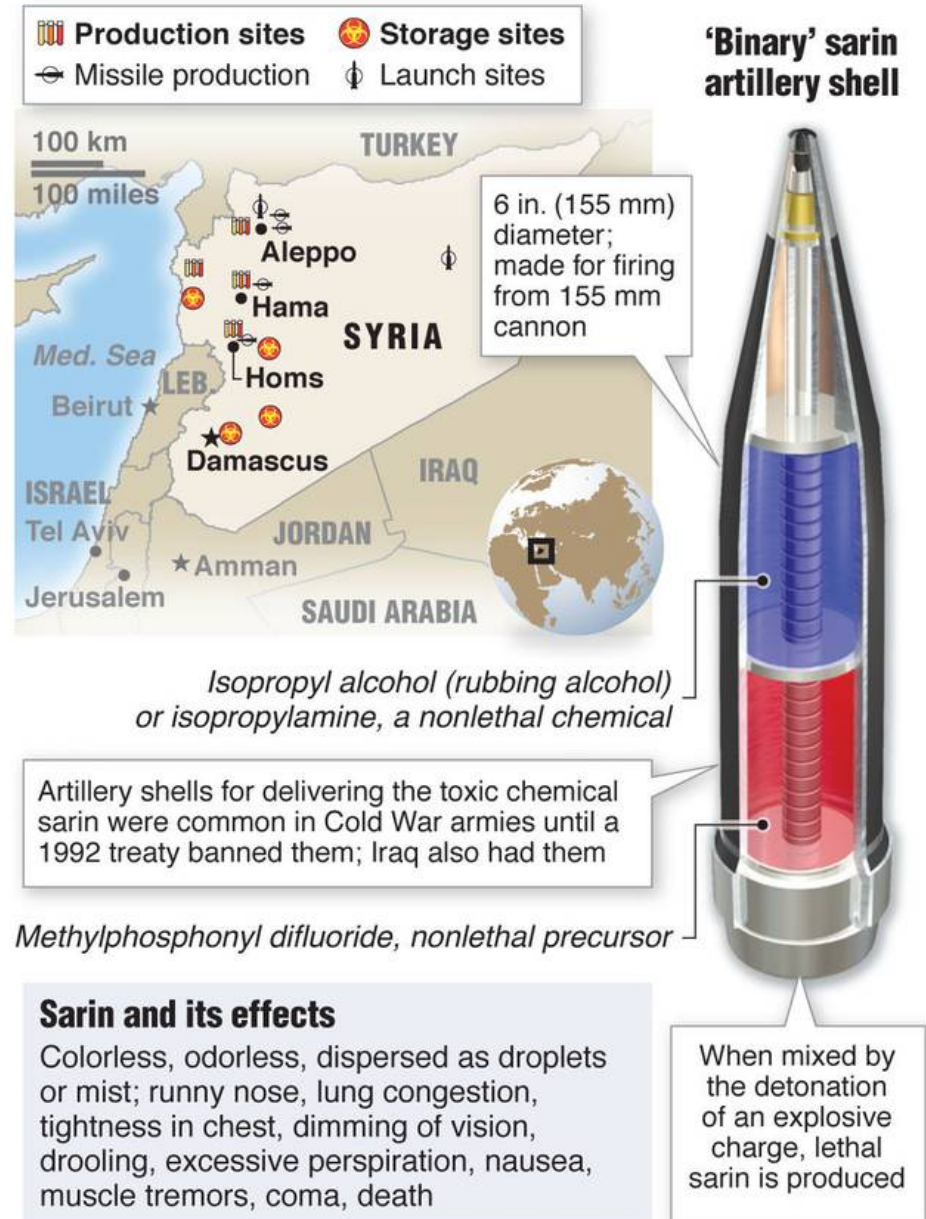
Everyday chemical terrorist attacks in Syria

- Chlorine
- Sarin
- Mustard gaz



Syria's chemical weapons

The White House said for the first time that it has some evidence that Syria has used chemical weapons in its civil war. A look at Syria's chemical weapons facilities:



Source: Center for Nonproliferation Studies, U.S. Defense Department, GlobalSecurity.com, Journal of American Medical Association, BBC

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Terrorism is not a natural or technological disaster



Terrorists have a strategy with precise targets to

- injure, kill**
- spread fear and panic**

Impossible scenarios ?
We must prepare to be surprised !