



1

00:00:08,700 --> 00:00:14,389

NASA and contractor experts periodically team up to ensure they are ready to counter any

2

00:00:14,389 --> 00:00:18,500

threat to NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

3

00:00:18,500 --> 00:00:24,560

Today, Kennedy is a 21st century spaceport for both government and industry.

4

00:00:24,560 --> 00:00:30,130

As a multi-user spaceport, Kennedy is much more diverse with many contractors, different

5

00:00:30,130 --> 00:00:36,050

launch vehicles and varied operations supporting human and robotic space exploration.

6

00:00:36,050 --> 00:00:38,910

As such, the center could become a target.

7

00:00:38,910 --> 00:00:45,040

To be ready to defend against this possibility, the center's Aircraft Operations recently

8

00:00:45,040 --> 00:00:50,720

teamed with the Kennedy Protective Services Contract's Emergency Response Team, or ERT,

9

00:00:50,720 --> 00:00:54,300

for extensive training exercises.

10

00:00:54,300 --> 00:00:57,970

The space center's helicopter operations support multiple missions.

11

00:00:57,970 --> 00:01:03,720

Their flights include everything from quickly

transporting injured persons to local hospitals,

12

00:01:03,720 --> 00:01:09,070

to firefighting, to assisting environmental experts in keeping track of wildlife.

13

00:01:09,070 --> 00:01:14,789

Training between Aircraft Operations and ERT is crucial for planning, coordination, reducing

14

00:01:14,789 --> 00:01:22,079

risk, working out logistical details and ensuring safety remains paramount.

15

00:01:22,079 --> 00:01:27,270

Kennedy's Emergency Response Team, also known as a SWAT -- for Special Weapons And Tactics

16

00:01:27,270 --> 00:01:31,060

-- is a select group within the Kennedy Patrol.

17

00:01:31,060 --> 00:01:36,350

This elite unit has the additional training required to respond to a crisis.

18

00:01:36,350 --> 00:01:41,969

One of the simulated ERT training scenarios worked by the joint teams included searching

19

00:01:41,969 --> 00:01:46,999

on the ground and from the air for an armed intruder breaching the space center's gates.

20

00:01:46,999 --> 00:01:52,829

This provides an opportunity to practice using both technology and tactics to resolve dangerous

21

00:01:52,829 --> 00:01:55,469

situations safer and faster.

22
00:01:55,469 --> 00:02:00,999
Kennedy's ERT experts and Aircraft Operations crews coordinated maneuvers with the latest

23
00:02:00,999 --> 00:02:06,240
in communications equipment, infrared tracking devices and other technology to assist in

24
00:02:06,240 --> 00:02:10,630
locating and apprehending a hidden or fleeing trespasser.

25
00:02:10,630 --> 00:02:16,349
A high-technology aid recently added to the ERT and helicopter pilot's tool kit is the

26
00:02:16,349 --> 00:02:19,099
latest generation of night vision goggles.

27
00:02:19,099 --> 00:02:24,560
The state-of-the-art vision aids allow aviators and ERT members to see images produced in

28
00:02:24,560 --> 00:02:27,680
levels of light approaching total darkness.

29
00:02:27,680 --> 00:02:33,680
Night vision goggles now provide ERT experts and NASA pilots increased capabilities and

30
00:02:33,680 --> 00:02:34,900
reduce risk.

31
00:02:34,900 --> 00:02:39,900
The ERT training also included repelling down a seven-story training tower.

32
00:02:39,900 --> 00:02:45,379
This capability gives Kennedy's Security team

additional options to respond to a situation

33

00:02:45,379 --> 00:02:50,430

and quickly reach employees needing help,
or to apprehend a dangerous intruder at the

34

00:02:50,430 --> 00:02:51,430

space center.

35

00:02:51,430 --> 00:02:56,599

To date, Kennedy has not had to face a serious
threat to the safety or security of its workforce

36

00:02:56,599 --> 00:03:00,760

or facilities that, together, comprise a national
treasure.

37

00:03:00,760 --> 00:03:05,579

By conducting periodic training exercises
in which the Kennedy Protective Services team

38

00:03:05,579 --> 00:03:12,010

joins together with partner agencies and available
technology they will be ready if needed to