

The Mist....something to think about.

By KI5UAJ.

For this evenings training , Im going to bring up a phrase that we have all heard but that can mean different things to each of us. This phrase can evolve from minute to minute even should we find ourselves in the situation and as it is progressively deteriorating. The phrase is “sheltering in place”.

I don't do you all any good if I just read something to you as a general topic. Facts are good knowledge, but giving you something to think about after Im done is what Im looking for. Something for you to think about the next time your in a public place or the weathers changing on you quick. If Im doing this right, I should be leaving you with a different mindset of what you may have thought was a pretty cut and dry situation.

Shelter in place is an emergency protocol that directs individuals to find a safe indoor location, such as their home, office, or school, and remain there until authorities advise that it is safe to leave. Ok and great if youre at home and the “system” calls your phone and lets you know that there is a shelter in place order given because of a nearby hazmat situation. Ive been preparing for this for years...I will just bust out this bag and do this and this and this.....I got this.

This is all great and you are controlling your immediate environment. environment. You control who enters and who leaves. You as base this on your training and knowledge. You might rely on what is being shared on the local net or tv. But you control what goes on there. But.....

But what happens when you are traveling on IH 35 in the area of Jarrell, walking into the gym at the local high school for a band recital or even walking into the local Supermarket and the towns emergency system is activated and sirens are wailing? The skies are dark and large hail and high winds are coming in?

The tornado is getting closer, the shots being fired are getting closer, you see people falling to the ground as if they just breathed in a nerve agent or there a hazardous materials release. The winds are starting to knock over trees, the situation is getting worse and visibitly is limited...wai,t theres the library. Im going for it.

Do you mash on the gas and try to outrun it or the mass crowds...what if your truck is clear across the parking lot and you cant make it? You run into the Tractor Supply with just your EDC bag.

There may be a contaminant in the outside air that has created this. You may have a lot of people all of the sudden rushing into a real small area and they are all shook up as you are. Some may actually be off gassing from the contaminant. Do I stay with the group or do I find my own space in this building? Do I evacuate myself from this current situation and try to find something better? There is a whole lot going on in a short period of time.

Its weird, but me and a friend at work today was talking about movies. We started talking about the movie "The Mist" which is off of Stephen Kings writings. Its about a mysterious monster filled fog that traps people in a supermarket. Now, you want to talk about shelter in place! A lot went on inside of that store if you can imagine. A lot of hysteria and bad decision making.

Do you risk going outside and getting contaminated? Are they going to let you back in? Somebodies got to do it? Im not going to be the canary, lets make him do it! Shoe him outside!

A lot of people, some with health concerns, some strong, some not so capable, some jerks....some in complete hysteria.

Lets move away from that for a minute. Some things to consider are:

Chemical/Radiological Emergency (hazmat)

Scenario: A local factory leaks toxic gas or a train car derails, releasing hazardous fumes.

Action: Go inside building with few windows, turn off AC/Heating and seal gaps around doors/windows with plastic sheeting and duct tape.

Sealing rooms, staying put, and listening to news/authorities.

Active Threat/Lockdown

Scenario: An active assailant is near or inside a school, workplace or public space

Action: Lock and barricade doors, turn off lights, silence phones, silence cell phone ringers, and remaining silent. Arming yourself to defend.

Severe weather /Tornado

Scenario: Tornado sirens sound or a severe weather warning is issued

Action: Go to the lowest, central interior room away from windows

General shelter in place procedures:

Move inside

Seal the room

Turn off ventilation

Stay informed

Am I in a good spot here? Am I safe enough and undetected from the threat? Do I move to something better? Do I actually know what the threat is? Should I stay or should I go?

I put this together to bring a few other aspects to this shelter in place. Its not always going to happen when you are home. You may be traveling with the family or maybe just went into town for a burger. Something has happened and its going to be an all nighter. Having the gear and knowledge and the preparedness mentality is great but whats going to happen when theres another 10, 20 or 50 people crammed in that library with you?

Just something to think about. I hope I got you to wondering.

That's tonights training. This is KI5UAJ, Rudy, returning it back to net control.