

Request from our Dutch ASU colleague.

PAvCon 2018

Since January 2015, 9 major terrorist attacks have been committed within Europe. Think of the attacks in Brussels, Paris, London, Barcelona, Stockholm and Berlin. A part of the police deployment during and immediately after these attacks was Air Support. Air Support for observation, for detection, for transport of special units, etc. Hours, maybe days of flight time after the aforementioned attacks. Every unit to the best of its ability with all possible means and especially with their own techniques and tactics.

What we know for sure:

- In the (near) future, more terrorist attacks will follow in Europe;
- These attacks will also take place in countries where no attack has been made so far;
- Air support units for support. With fixed wing, UAVs and helicopters.

As mentioned, there are Air Support Units in Europe with terrorist attack experience. They have accumulated hours of "experience" in how an air asset can be used as effectively as possible. They also have experiences in tactics which have not proved to be effective.

These experiences, positive and/or negative, have emerged and discussed within the units in a major debriefing? Based on that, have adjustments been made to the SOPs? But have these experiences also been shared with, for example, neighbouring countries? With the European colleagues? What are the do's and don'ts for ASUs during such a mission? What when it becomes a cross-border operation? What is the nearest air asset is one from a foreign country? Are conversations possible via police radios, except for VHF or UHF?

I think PAVCon 2018 and PAVCon 2019 are the places to come together and have a meeting on this subject. PAVCon 2018 to share experiences and make a start with a kind of SOP for ASUs how to deal with terrorist attacks and PAVCon 2019 to endorse it as a sort of blueprint.

With this, PAVCon Europe cordially invites the colleagues of the European Police Air Support Units, in particular the Gendarmerie Nationale (France), the Air Support Department of the Federal Police (Belgium), the National Police Air Service (UK), the Mossos d'Esquadra (Barcelona), Guardia Civil (Spain), Polisflyget (Sweden) and the colleagues of the Bundespolizei Fliegerstaffel (Germany), to share their experiences during PAVCon 2018 with all other units present and to come to a do and do not list in case of a deployment in response to a terrorist attack.

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