

The ISIS Chemical Biological Threat to the West: a discussion with Dr. Jill Bellamy-NER



The Islamic State (IS) terrorism's long arm reaches out from its self-declared Caliphate in Raqqa, Syria. It broke like a thunderclap in the waning days of 2015. There was the downing of a Russian Metrojet Airbus 321 flight in the Sinai with 224 passengers and crew with a bomb secreted aboard by possible ISIS operatives on October 31, 2015. A suicide bombing by ISIS-linked operatives in the south Beirut bastion of Iran's proxy Hezbollah killed 43 on November 12th. The worst was yet to come the following evening with the bloody spectacles of Paris massacres on November 13th perpetrated by Belgian and French born Moroccan émigrés and ISIS suicide bombers who entered Europe in the flood of more than 1 million Muslim refugees using fraudulent Syrian passports. The audacious plot by European ISIS operatives at a soccer stadium, outdoor cafés and the Bataclan music hall resulted in the deaths of 130 innocent civilians, more than 350 injured, 95 of the latter seriously. Five days later on November 18th, French police swat teams fought a pitched battle in the predominately Muslim banlieue of St. Denis in suburban Paris resulting in deaths of the mastermind of the Paris attacks, Abdelhamid Abaaoud, the 28 year old Belgian born ISIS fighter, his French born cousin and other perpetrators.

The US was not spared ISIS-inspired terrorism. On December 2nd, an American born Pakistani husband and his immigrant Pakistani wife, who entered the US under an unvetted K-1 fiancée visa, killed 14 innocent colleagues of the husband in a blaze of assault weapons fire at a holiday gathering in San Bernardino, California. The open borders of the European Schengen System and the vulnerable US immigration control system were broken by these ISIS terrorist events against the backdrop of the massive Muslim refugee flight from Middle East and South Asian conflicts.



French Premier Manuel Valls at National Assembly, November 19, 2015

On November 19th, French Premier Manuel Valls warned the French National Assembly about the possibility that ISIS may have the capabilities in Europe to inflict mass casualties through the use of deadly chemical and biological weapons. *The Daily Mail* [reported](#):

France's prime minister has warned his country to be prepared for chemical and biological attacks as he told MPs that the 'macabre imagination' of [Syrian](#) and Iraqi scientists in the Middle East.

The French Premier's allegations about ISIS' resort to possible CBW attacks before the National Assembly were realized when two Syrian nationals were [arrested](#) in Geneva, Switzerland on December 12th after a search of their vehicle revealed explosives and toxic gas. Just prior to the Geneva arrests, the European Parliament Research Service released a report entitled, [ISIL/Daesh and non- conventional weapons of terror](#). It noted:

Rob Wainwright, the head of Europol, the coordinating organization of EU countries' police forces, confirmed during a hearing in the European Parliament on 19 November that Europe was likely to face new ISIL/Da'esh attacks after those in Paris the previous week. According to Wainwright:

We are dealing with a very serious, well resourced, determined international terrorist organization that is now active on the streets of Europe. This represents the most serious terrorist threat faced in Europe for 10 years.

Several experts have warned that there is a genuine risk of ISIL/Da'esh using chemical, biological, radiological or even nuclear materials in the context of future attacks on European targets. It has been suggested that the group's next weapon of choice could, for example, be an improvised explosive device containing chemical or radioactive materials.



Dr. Jill Bellamy in Bio-Protection Gear

[Dr. Jill Bellamy](#), a member of the UN Counter Terrorism Task Force and noted

biological warfare threat reduction expert, has been the Cassandra-like predictor that ISIS terrorists would open the Pandora's Box of non-conventional chemical and biological weapons. We have interviewed Bellamy several times. Her prescience about the lurking threat of the Syrian bio-warfare complex in a Damascus suburb was reflected in our January 2013 NER interview, [The Dangers of Syria's Bio-Warfare Complex Should Assad Fall](#). Former Israeli Deputy Chief of Mission at the Washington, DC Embassy upon reviewing that interview called Bellamy's revelations, "breathtaking" warning about the threat of terrorists overrunning the Syrian Scientific Research Center complex – a complex now under the security of Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps.

In conversations with Dr. Bellamy she had raised the threat that the Islamic State with more than \$1 billion in funding from smuggled oil sales, extortion and looted bank hard currency and gold reserves could acquire the professional staff of scientists and technicians and equip laboratories for production of leading edge synthetic biological weapons. She had also drawn concern over foreign ISIS fighters in Libya gaining control of Gaddafi-era chemical weapons caches sealed by the UN.

In two segments of the Lisa Benson Radio Show on National Security, on November 22th and December 20, 2015, listen [here](#) and [here](#), a panel composed of Ms. Benson, Advisory Board Member Richard Cutting and Jerry Gordon held a discussion with Dr. Bellamy about these non-conventional ISIS chemical and biological weapons threats to Europe and the West. What follows is the consolidated discussion from both programs. ([READ MORE](#))