


GPSTC
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Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs

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Terminal Performance Objective

- Given actual and hypothetical scenarios, the student will identify a member of an outlaw motorcycle gang and the associated potential safety threats in accordance with the International Association of Undercover Officers.




Enabling Objectives

- Describe the origin of the term one percent.
- Describe the significance of the one percent patch.
- Describe the significance of other patches on the one percenters vest/jacket.
- Identify what category of domestic terrorist that one percenters can be classified as based on their beliefs and associations.




Section One:

The Origins of the One Percent




History of the Motorcycle

- 1866-first U.S. patent for a bicycle filed by Michaux and Company, a French company.
- 1867-first steam powered cycle developed by Ernest Michaux in France.
- 1885-first petroleum powered cycle designed and built in Germany by Gottlieb Daimler.
- 1893-the term "motorcycle" is used by E.J. Pennington.



History of the Motorcycle

- 1895-first motorcycle in U.S. is brought to New York City by a French circus performer.
- 1901-American manufactures Indian Motorcycles is founded.
- 1903-William S. Harley and Arthur Davidson makes its first production Harley Davidson motorcycle available to the public.



History of Motorcycles

- 1911-Chief August Vollmer of Berkley California P.D. is credited with creating the first motorcycle patrol.
- Throughout the early 1900's improvements and modifications continued to occur due to the new sport of motorcycle racing.
- World War 2 veterans returning home sought to replicate the excitement they had encountered in the war zones of Europe and the Pacific.



The American Motorcycle Association

- Created in 1924 as a division of the Motorcycle and Allied Trades Association.
- Responsible for rider registrations and activities, sanctioning national events, and serving motorcycle industry members.
- Three classes of membership.
 - Class A: Large motorcycle companies.
 - Class B: Supply and accessory companies.
 - Class C: Motorcycle dealers.



Hollister Gypsy Tour Rally

- The Hollister Gypsy Tour Rally was an annual American Motorcycle Association sanctioned event that had been taking place in Hollister throughout the 1930's.
- The Gypsy Tour was a series of AMA sanctioned events that took place around the country and was considered the best place for motorcyclist to converge.
- Consisted of a ride to a picnic location, competitions (including races and hill climbs), field meets (with events like slow races, stake races, and plank riding), and social activities including lots of partying.



Hollister Riot: July 4-6, 1947

- Hollister estimated population was 4,500
- 7 man police force
- 4,000 attended the Hollister Gypsy Tour Rally
- Local Businesses overwhelmed, including hotels.
- 50 people arrested
 - Public intoxication
 - Reckless driving
 - Disturbing the peace
 - Fighting
 - Racing
 - Trespassing
- Special court convened to handle overload of cases



Hollister Riot: July 4-6, 1947



Photo Credit: San Francisco Chronicle & C.I. Daughtry



Hollister Riot: July 4-6, 1947

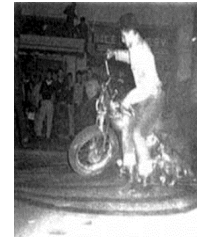
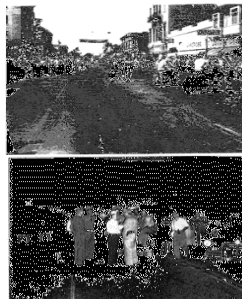


Photo Credit: San Francisco Chronicle & C.I. Daughtry



Hollister Riot: July 4-6, 1947

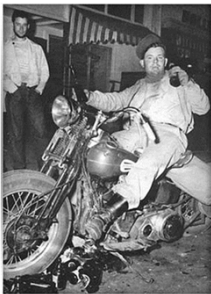
- July 4-local bartenders quit selling beer in an effort to calm things down. Closed businesses two hours early.
- July 5- At 3:30 P.M. Lt. McPhail of the local police department called the State Police and asked for assistance.
- Capt. L.T. Torres brought a force of 40 Highway Patrolmen armed with tear gas to regain control of the situation.



Photo Credit: San Francisco Chronicle & Barney Peterson



Origins of the One Percenter



- Barney Peterson, photographer for the San Francisco Chronicle, is said to have staged this photo.
- Photo which went nationwide, eventually making the cover of *Life* magazine.



Origins of the One Percenter

- The American Motorcycle Association (AMA) stated that *"The trouble was caused by the one percent deviant that tarnishes the public image of both motorcycles and motorcyclists."*
- Hollister Riot inspired the 1953 movie *"The Wild One"* starring Marlon Brando.



Hollister Riot: July 4-6, 1947

- Began a disassociation between the law abiding membership of the AMA and the individuals who wanted to operate by their own rules.
- Would eventually lead to the creation of the one percenter and the outlaw motorcycle gang.

Information from various sources; The American Motorcycle Association website, The Tophatters MC website, the Iron Horse Ministries website



Origin of the One Percenter


- In early 1960, Sonny Barger, George Wethern, and Frank Sadilek of the Hells Angels met with the leaders of other Southern California clubs.
- "At the meeting, we voted to ally under a 'one percenter patch'; it would supplement the regular colors, identify the wearer as a righteous outlaw, and prevent infighting uniting them against a common enemy: law enforcement."

From the book: *A Wayward Angel* by former vice president George Wethern



Origin of the One Percenter


- “It was Sonny’s idea to ally the various clubs under a diamond-shaped ‘one-percenter’ patch. He took it a step further by becoming the first Hells Angel to have the famous ‘one-percenter’ drawn on his arm.”
From the book: Street Justice by Chuck Zito, former president Hells Angels New York
- “Sonny and another Hells Angel who was at the meeting thought they were beyond a little patch so they headed down to a local tattoo shop in Oakland and were the first to get the famous One Percent tattoos.”
-Chuck Zito Quote



Section Two:

Reading the Vest:

A guide to understanding the meaning of other patches worn by Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Members on their vests and Jackets.



Reading the Vest: Ranks

President


- Ultimate Authority
- His word is law
- Establishes disciplinary responses
- Sets dues
- Makes other important club decisions



Reading the Vest: Ranks

Vice President


- Second in charge
- Groomed to assume President’s position
- Handles the majority of small, non-essential tasks.



Reading the Vest: Ranks

Treasurer


- Maintains financial records (both legal and illegal)
- Tracks dues payments
- Maintains a ledger of payments and expenses.



Reading the Vest: Ranks

Secretary


- Maintains documentation
 - Meeting notes
 - Club schedules
 - Membership rosters



Reading the Vest: Ranks

Sgt. At Arms


- President's right-hand man and personal body guard
- May act punish club members at President's direction.
- Sets up operations against rivals.



Reading the Vest: Ranks

Enforcer


- Enforces club rules.
- Usually one of the toughest members of the club.




Reading the Vest: Ranks

Road Captain

- Frequently contacted
- Responsible for planning and coordinating all club movements.
- Liaisons with all law enforcement agencies along the route.




Reading the Vest: The Filthy Few



- Originally issued by the Hells Angels
- Denoted someone who "had taken care of business for the club."
- Murder or some other serious felony.


Photo courtesy of Art Musselman



Reading the Vest: 13

13


- Can have multiple meanings.
- Drug using or dealing member.
- Member of the "mother" chapter.
- "1 Judge, 12 Jurors"
- "Southside," "La Eme," or "Mexican Mafia."



Reading the Vest: 69

69

- Different meanings based on the individual or the club.
- Fire and Ice MC
 - F is the 6th letter and I is the 9th letter of the alphabet.
- Sexual act performed in front of another member.



Reading the Vest: RIP/Tombstone Patches

R.I.P.
 In memory of
 John
 "Big John"
 1%er
 Smith
 12-14-1967
 01-28-2013

- Memorialize fallen members of the outlaw motorcycle gangs.
- Typically, contains the member's name, nick name, date of birth and date of death.



Reading the Vest: Prospects and Probates

Prospect

Probate

- Earned as the motorcyclist attempts to earn full membership in a club.
- Indicate a serious threat to the law enforcement officer since their owners are trying to earn full membership.



Reading the Vest: Side Rockers



- Usually worn on the side, but may be on the front, near the shoulders.
- Designates different things depending on the club:
 - Motorcycle club
 - Member's club name
 - Nomad status
 - Other locations
 - Gifts



Nomads

- Claims no territory.
- May travel alone or with other nomads as a group.
- Respected and accepted as club members.
- May be used for serious felonies or to establish new chapters.
- Usually answers only to the national club president.



Other Patches Seen on Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Vests

MC
RC
MM
LEMC
FFMC

- Motorcycle Clubs (MC)
- Riding Clubs (RC)
- Motorcycle Ministries (MM)
- Law Enforcement Motorcycle Clubs (LEMC)
- Firefighter Motorcycle Clubs (FFMC).



Back Patches

- Typically come in one of three designs; the one piece patch, the two piece patch, and the three piece patch.
- An officer should not generalize a club's status as outlaw or legal solely on the number of patches worn on the back of the motorcyclist's vest.



One Piece Back Patches

One Piece Patch:

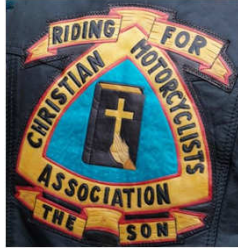


Photo from Art Musselman, used with permission of the Christian Motorcyclist Association.



Two Piece Back Patches

Two Piece Patch:



Photo credit: Federal Bureau of Investigation Report: Trademarking of Vagos Outlaw Motorcycle Gang "Cuts" to prevent penetration by undercover L. E. Operations



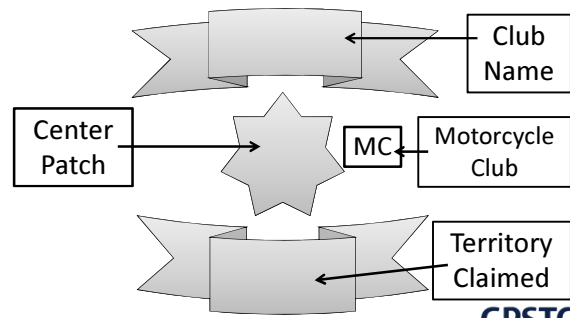
Three Piece Back Patches



Photo credit: Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms report OMG's and the Military 2010 Update Intelligence Report



Back Patches: The Three Part Patch



The Big Four

- Hells Angels
- Outlaws
- Bandidos
- Pagans



The Big Four: Hells Angels

- 2000-2500 members
 - 230 U.S. Chapters
 - 26 Foreign Countries
 - Criminal threat on 6 continents
 - Drugs
 - Marijuana, meth, cocaine, hashish, heroin, LSD, Ecstasy, PCP, diverted pharmaceuticals.
 - Other criminal activity.
- Logo and Colors**
- Center patch logo: "Death's Head"
 - Skull wearing a red helmet gold wings
 - Based on 85th Fighter Squadron and 552nd Medium Bomber Squadron insignia.
 - Club colors are red & white (red letters on white background).



The Big Four: Outlaws

- 1700 members
- 176 U.S. Chapters
- 12 Foreign Countries.
- Dominant OMG in the Great Lakes Region
- Drug production and/or, transportation and distribution
 - Meth, cocaine, marijuana, Ecstasy
- Other criminal activity.

Logo and Colors

- Center patch logo: "Charlie"
- White skull face over crossed pistons.
- The logo may include some red in the eyes and on the pistons.
- Club colors are black and white (white letters on black background).



The Big Four: Bandidos

- 2000 to 2500 members
- Approximately 93 U.S. chapters with 900 members.
- Drug transportation and distribution
 - Cocaine, marijuana
- Producers of meth.
- Most active in the Pacific, Southeastern, Southwestern, and West Central regions of the U.S.

Logo and Colors

- Center patch: "Fat Mexican"
- Man wearing a sombrero, scarf, and spurs with pistol in the right hand and a machete in the left.
- Club colors are red and gold (red letters on gold background).



The Big Four: Pagans

- 200 to 250 members
- 41 U.S. Chapters
- prominent OMG in Mid-Atlantic region.
- Drug distribution
 - Cocaine, meth, marijuana, PCP
- Tied to traditional organized crime groups in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and New York.
- Other criminal activity

Logo and Colors

- Center patch: "Surtr"
- Norse mythological fire giant sitting on the sun wielding a sword.
- Club colors are red, white, and blue (blue letters on white background with red outline).



Section Three:

Outlaw Motorcycle Gang or Domestic Terrorist Group



Domestic Terrorism

- Since September 11, the threat of internationally based Islamic extremist networks has dominated concerns of Homeland Security officials.
- Authorities say the threats posed by homegrown Islamic extremism is growing.
- The FBI has reported that roughly two-thirds of terrorism in the United States was conducted by non-Islamic American extremists from 1980-2001; and from 2002-2005, it went up to 95 percent.

Council on Foreign Relations: Background, February 7, 2011



Definition of Domestic Terrorist

- "Domestic terrorism is the unlawful use, or threatened use, of violence by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States (or its territories) without foreign direction, committed against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives."

Dale L. Watson, Executive Assistant Director, Counterterrorism/Counterintelligence Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence



Four Categories of Domestic Terrorism

1. Left Wing – “Generally profess a revolutionary socialist doctrine and view themselves as protectors of the people against the ‘dehumanizing effects’ of capitalism and imperialism.”

Examples include:

- Red Army Faction
- FARC
- Shining Path

FBI Report on Terrorism 2002-2005, U.S. Department of Justice



Four Categories of Domestic Terrorism

2. Right Wing – “primarily in the form of domestic militias and conservative special interest causes, including racial supremacy, hatred and suspicion of the federal government, and fundamentalist Christianity.”

- The Southern Poverty Law Center, suggests militia groups declined every year since 1996 but have seen a dramatic resurgence since 2008.

FBI Report on Terrorism 2002-2005, U.S. Department of Justice



Four Categories of Domestic Terrorism

3. Special Interest – Single-issue extremists attack targets that embody distinct political issues like environmental degradation, abortion, genetic engineering, or animal abuse.

- These groups are usually composed of small, autonomous cells that are hard to infiltrate because of rigid secrecy.
- According to the FBI, so-called eco-terrorists and animal rights groups, like the Earth Liberation Front have committed over 2000 crimes and caused losses of over \$110 million since 1979.

FBI Report on Terrorism 2002-2005, U.S. Department of Justice



Four Categories of Domestic Terrorism

4. Homegrown Islamic Extremists –U.S. persons who appeared to have assimilated, but reject the cultural values, beliefs, and environment of the United States.

- Identify as Muslims and on some level become radicalized in the United States.
- Intend to provide support for, or directly commit, a terrorist attack inside the United States.
- Treat is likely smaller in scale than that posed by overseas terrorist groups but is potentially larger in psychological impact.

FBI Report on Terrorism 2002-2005, U.S. Department of Justice



What Category of Domestic Terrorists are Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs?

- An OMG would most closely meet the definition of a right wing terrorist group.
- “Attacks committed by people who favor individual freedoms over governmental regulation are classified as right-wing domestic terrorism. Such extremists may be motivated by issues of race, such as the Ku Klux Klan, or other issues, such as opposition to abortion or immigration.”
- According to the FBI, “right-wing terrorists often take racist and racial supremacy and embrace antigovernment, antiregulatory platforms.”

“Military Extremists in the United States, Council on Foreign Relations.



Section Four: Intelligence Gathering



Intelligence Gathering

- Have necessary resources:
 - Plentiful back-up officers
 - Field interview cards
<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/internetforms/Forms/INT-7.pdf>
 - Digital camera
 - A separate, secure, communications channel and dedicated dispatcher.



Intelligence Gathering

- Complete Field Interview Cards on all members, women, associates, etc.
- Photograph everything and keep a photo log.
- Record on video if possible.
- Get a variety of angles: over-all scene, medium range, and close-up shots.



Intelligence Gathering

- Document thoroughly; give good narrative descriptions.
- Run checks on all motorcycles, weapons, and any other real property through NCIC/GCIC & ATF databases.
- For more information on motorcycle VINs, see <https://www.nicb.org>



Additional Resources



Additional Training

- “Response to terrorism in Georgia” or “Gang Investigators”
 - offered by GPSTC
- “Patrol Response to Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs”
 - offered by the Heartland Law Enforcement Training Institute
- “Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigations”
 - offered by the International Association of Undercover Officers and the Heartland Law Enforcement Training Institute



IOMGIA

- International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association
- Provides a conduit for information exchange, updated training, and international network building.
- <https://iomgia.net/>



Additional Resources: Movies

- Beyond the Law (1993 Fiction)- undercover officer infiltrates a O.M.G.
- Inside Story - Road Warriors: The Biker Brotherhood (1992 Documentary)
- Hessians M.C. (2005 Documentary)
- Wheels of Soul M.C. (2005 Documentary)



Additional Resources: Books

- Under and Alone The True Story of the Undercover Agent Who Infiltrated America's Most Violent Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (2006 non-fiction)
- No Angel: My Harrowing Undercover Journey to the Inner Circle of the Hells Angels (2010 non-fiction)
- Angels of Death: Inside the Biker Gangs' Crime Empire (2006 non-fiction)
- A Wayward Angel: The Full Story of the Hells Angels (2008 non-fiction)



Additional Resources: Websites

- <https://www.txdps.state.tx.us/internet/forms/Forms/INT-7.pdf>
- <https://nicb.org>
- <https://iomgia.net/>



Terminal Performance Objective

- Given a roadside encounter, officers will know the origin of the term one percenter, and be able to determine the significance of the one percent patch as well as other patches on a one percenters vest/jacket. Officers will also know what category of domestic terrorist one percenters can be classified as and why.



Enabling Objectives

- Describe the origin of the term one percenter.
- Describe the significance of the one percent patch.
- Describe the significance of other patches on the one percenters vest/jacket.
- Identify what category of domestic terrorist that one percenters can be classified as based on their beliefs and associations.



Conclusion

- Verify Course Completion on Finish Page
- Complete Survey
- Print Certificate

