# Defense Threat Reduction Agency Nuclear Detection Division (RD-NTD)

ADSA – 19, Rapid Response to an Adapting Adversary

Lt Col Steven P. Webber RD-NTD 16 Oct 2018



Distribution Statement A – Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.



#### **Overview**



- Perspective
- DoD Perspective on Rapid Response to an Adapting Adversary...within Nuclear Detection / Screening

#### Not your standard brief



# Perspective – My son at 14

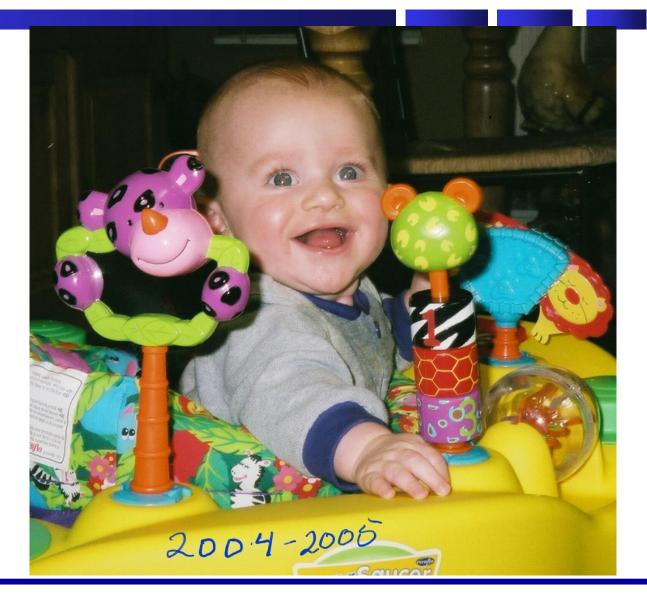






## Perspective – What I see...protecting







### **Perspective – Good Career?**







# Perspective – Still a good career?







## Perspective – My daughter at 12







# Perspective – How she started

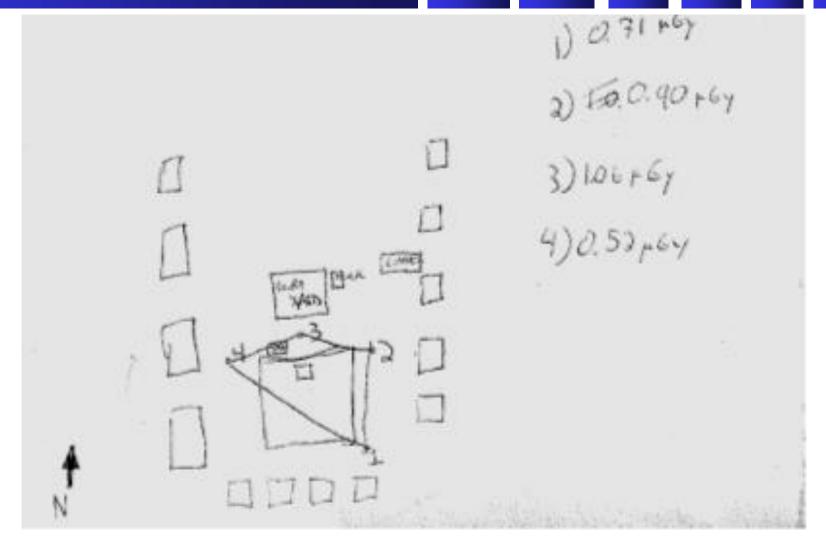






#### Perspective – Stryker today







## Perspective – Stryker tomorrow









#### The real slide 1.5/2.0



- Introduction
  - Webb's R&D background: ATR and Nuclear Detection
- Mission 1: Find the bomb, literally....

Mission 2: Nuclear screening

Rapid Response to an Adapting Adversary



#### **DoD Nuclear Screening**



- Setting National Guard supports large, CONUS events
  - Most are self-contained like an airport....i.e. US Open
  - Some are wide open...i.e. Boston Marathon
- Problem
  - Detect the presence of nuclear material at speed / imperfect equipment
- Philosophy
  - Layered, continuous screening...maybe not overt
  - False negatives are bad; false positives are acceptable

Rapid Response to an Adapting Adversary



#### **Questions**



- How does DoD deal with equipment, methods, conops that are imperfect (e.g., less than perfect detection and false alarms)
- Is TSA creating the impression for the public and Congress that their equipment is perfect?
  - Should TSA change this perception and how would/could they change that perception.



#### Rapid Response to an Adapting Adversary



- Listen to the Users / Operators
  - They are working the problem
  - They aren't scientist....and that's good
- Collaborate, Collaborate
  - Among existing sensors / platforms (1+1=more than 2)
    - See ASDA05/06, Fusing Technologies....
  - Among researchers / developers...which is why we are here
  - Among users, i.e. CONOPs



#### **Thank for YOUR Service**



- Your work it vital
- Your work is in service to our nation
- No, I am not a pilot nor an Astronaut