Hundreds of years ago in the Western World there were those who chose to serve in the protection of their employers. They were called “Musketeers”. In the Far East, they were known as “Biaoshi” and “Samurai”. No matter what they were called, all knew the definition of their profession and their duties:

**To keep their Protégés and their families safe and secure wherever they went.**

**In the 21st century**, those who deal with the protection of their employers are called Bodyguards, Close Protection Operatives, and VIP/Executive Protection Specialists. More recently, they have been called PSD Operators and Personal Security Details/Detachments because of their deployment in Iraq or Afghanistan, which have become known as the most dangerous areas for VIPs (not necessary heads of state).

Many romantic stories and legends were told about these unique individuals and in most of these stories they were described as the bravest of warriors, heroes or supermen. This profession created an aura around those who chose to specialize and live by the rules of the field. It is one of the oldest professions in the world.

This sector gave society a few norms of behavior that gained high respect and honor from its communities.

The massive changes that globalization has brought to all areas of life has also created grave concerns for both personal safety and the protection of investments located in critical areas around the globe. These specially trained and highly skilled personnel are hired to protect individuals or assets of organizations that operate in High-Risk environments or may face violent crime or terrorism.

We all know that in modern democratic societies, public bodies; economic companies; the media; cultural, entertainment and industrial organizations; and others, are managed by Senior Executives/Decisions Makers.
These Executives are symbols of power and wealth. Their high position places them in the public eye, gaining them media attention. As a result, they are liable to be targeted by both individuals and groups (competitors, terrorist and criminal organizations, mentally unstable individuals, etc).

Many of the VIPs/Executives often refrain from using protection services because of the lack of reliable and efficient professional services and because of the increase in price (due to the lack of a suitable infrastructure allowing better service for less money).

As a result, many of them take unnecessary risks, not only for themselves and their organizations but also for their families, employees and even innocent bystanders.

The lack of sufficient secure and safe conditions/atmosphere for these VIPs/Executives prevents or reduces opportunities of development for the entire society.

The Protection Specialist has numerous responsibilities though his action will depend on his organization’s character, activities and location. His job will always inevitably involve detecting the weak points of the organization and securing them. His duty is to prevent any harm to his organization by all the means placed at his disposal.

The need for qualified Protection Specialists capable of providing services related to the protection of assets (sensitive installations) and VIPs such as experts, engineers, journalists, UN employees and even cargo ship crews has increased tremendously.

Today, due to the high demand and need to privatize certain functions of government, transferring them to the civilian workforce, this specialized field of protection services has become one of the fastest growing sectors. Countries, companies and organizations worldwide are currently reestablishing themselves in order to fill the void in the security field on the background of the alarming rise in crime against VIPs; executives; businesses; public, state and financial bodies worldwide.

We at the International Security Academy – ISRAEL, which has specialized in Protection & Counter Terrorism Instruction, in general, and in VIP Protection Qualification, in particular, since 1987, decided to approach VIPs, owners/executives
of leading firms and businesses and offer them our unique expertise and support in the prevention of the various damages from crimes or various threats they are confronted by in their routine business activities.

We show our support by sharing our proven expertise and knowledge in order to assist in reorganizing existing security systems by assessing their protection needs and qualifying their Security Directors, Team Leaders and others. We also train potential candidates to become instructors and with them together assist the training of their protection personnel, guide them for setting up relevant procedures, control and supervision methods, as well as advising about means and equipment needed for their efficient and comprehensive protection array.

Such opportunities are also offered to those who are active in the field of security (security companies or individual experts in that domain) who understand that advancement and training NEVER ENDS, as well as those whose professionalism is expressed by an ongoing pursuit of knowledge.
The “Modern Musketeer” of the 21st Century
The Ultimate Israeli Instruction Manual for Distance / Online Qualification Quest
Produced by www.securityacademy.com
This manual was created for Protection Personnel assigned to VIP/Close Protection duties in the field. This manual will give you the essential guidelines and directives for your service as a single VIP Protection Operative. Protection Operatives work in a unique environment with unique individuals, colleagues, principals, situations and duties. They will not always have the benefit of the massive equipment support, agency infrastructure on location, budget or additional personnel.

Your decisions, actions and performance will reflect upon your principal’s public relations in addition to his/her ability to perform his/her duties and decisions. You have an incredible responsibility in addition to your duty to protect your principal from any harm and intimidation.

You will not only work with staff from every corner of the world but, you will also find that your team members sometimes will come from different countries and ethnic backgrounds. Team members will have different beliefs, religions, skills, abilities and experiences. This will put your ability to work as a team to the test.

Keeping the above-mentioned facts in mind, the key here is to create trust and teamwork within the team. No matter if the team consists of 1 or 20 officers. The responsibility / ability of the team leader or the single operating officer here is paramount.

Make use of your own and your team’s total abilities, skills and experiences. Cross train the team within the areas to create team consistency within the guidelines.

This will mean that your service as a security operative’s sometimes will differ from your previous experiences and assignments. Especially reference the close protection operations.

Professionalism will be the key to success and to overcoming obstacles in your way as an individual VIP Protection Operative and team. You will carry an enormous responsibility and the mission personnel will not always be aware of it.
Remember that you function as a Protection Operative to preserve order and to “protect persons and property”. This manual will focus on the essential cornerstones of the VIP Protection Service.

The main objective of the VIP Protection Operative and team is the personal safety of the principal. He/she must be protected at all times from all harmful incidents, attacks and intimidations whether caused by intent, accident or negligence. The operative/team must provide a barrier, which both protects and prevents an attack or keeps it from becoming successful for the attacker/s.

Today the importance of intelligence and information is paramount for the Close Protection Officer and the team. The ability to detect a threat to the Protégé and to be able to avoid it must be prioritized.

A big burden lies within the advance and intelligence performance. The VPO’s ability to communicate, absorb, handle and process information within the team and with the others operating in the mission area must be able to perform this function properly.

If the threat of harmful act is imminent or the harmful act is initiated, the first task is to cover/protect and evacuate the Protégé out of danger and to a safe area.

If the threat of a harmful act is imminent or has been initiated, the first task is to cover, protect and evacuate the Protégé to a safe area. If the threat cannot be avoided, the responsibility of the VPO may have to be to neutralize the threat.

REMEMBER:

We believe that the VIP Protection Branch is the most important in the security field. Among all the various security fields, it requires the highest level of skills, expertise, practical experience, quality of people and seriousness, especially because the danger to human life is the gravest and most immediate.

Our graduates who work in the field of sensitive installation security or securing the public, valuables in transit or other assets will be able to do so very efficiently, without any further training.
The training will qualify, upgrade, sophisticate and enhance the tactical capabilities and operational fitness of those who wish to work as International VIP Protection Operatives.

A basic understanding of the collection and evaluation of intelligence as it relates to the principal and threat assessment.

Familiarity with typical attacker profiles and actions, based on and including case studies of actual assassinations and attempts.

Understand and practice scanning the surroundings for threats, in order to respond to them appropriately.

Knowledge of the basic history of protective services and the ability to identify key concepts and terms of this unique segment of the security field.

The information necessary to integrate all elements of an executive protection mission into a working field operation.

The ability to undertake threat analysis, including evaluations of internal and external threats.

The ability to successfully clear an area from threats to the VIP. This process will be understood as part of an overall operation that involves movement by the VIP from one place to another.

Understand and practice correctly for motions related to both pedestrian and vehicular movement.

Understand and practice proper vehicle, person and room search techniques.

The ability to plan the safe arrival and departure of a VIP.

Awareness of technical capabilities such as surveillance, detection and alarm equipment.
Understanding of and the ability to execute the necessary maintenance procedures of secured areas over extended periods where the VIP remains static.

Understanding of the value of such relationships in terms of enhancing service to the client, as well as increased safety for the client and others assigned to the mission.

A basic understanding of the collection and evaluation of intelligence as it relates to the Principal, including threat assessment.

Familiarity with typical attacker profiles and actions, based on and including case studies of actual assassinations and attempts.

Understand and practice scanning the surroundings for threats, in order to respond to them appropriately.

Knowledge of the basic history of protective services and the ability to identify key concepts and terms of this unique segment of the security field.

Gain the information necessary to integrate all elements of an executive protection mission into a working field operation.

The ability to undertake threat analysis, including evaluations of internal and external threats.

The ability to successfully clear an area safe from threats to the VIP. This process will be understood as part of an overall operation that involves movement by the VIP from one place to another.

Understand correctly motions related to both pedestrian and vehicular movement.

Understand proper vehicle, person and room search techniques.

The training will qualify, upgrade, professionalize and enhance the tactical capabilities and operational fitness of those who wish to work as International Protection Operatives.
TRAINEE’S ACHIEVEMENTS

- Understanding the fundamentals of a protection team, in a manner that emphasizes team integration, cooperation and communication elements of a VIP protective mission.

- The ability to plan the safe arrival and departure of a VIP within the context of a VIP Protection Team mission.

- Understanding how to relay accurate information, such as descriptions and directions, to others in a Protective Service Team.

- The ability to build effective professional relationships with the police, security personnel, the public, businesses and employees within their field of operation.

- The ability to undertake field operations involving vehicle and pedestrian movement, command center operation and static post assignments.

- Awareness of technical capabilities such as surveillance, detection and alarm equipment.

- Thorough understanding of how mechanical and electronic assets can be integrated into Protection Team operations.

- Understanding the importance of proper staffing, the assignment of protective services and other security personnel as it relates to the protection of the VIP.

- Understanding the ability to execute the necessary maintenance procedures of secured areas over extended periods where the VIP remains static.

TRAINEE’S ACHIEVEMENTS AFTER COMPLETION OF BOTH QUALIFICATIONS: ACADEMIC / THEORETICAL DISTANCE STUDIES & PRACTICAL COMPLETION
• Understanding the value of such relationships in terms of enhancing service to the client, as well as increased safety for the client and others assigned to the mission.

• The training will qualify, upgrade, sophisticate and enhance the tactical capability and operational fitness of those who work or intend to work as High Risk Protection Operatives.

• Familiarity with typical attacker profiles and actions, based on and including case studies of attack strategies encountered during High Risk Zone operations.

• Understand and practice scanning the surroundings for threats, in order to respond to them appropriately.

• Knowledge of the basic information necessary to integrate all elements of High Risk protective missions into a working field operation.

• Understand convoy formations and vehicular movement, tactics and strategies.

• Exposure to the Arab/Islamic culture; its social habits, religion, language, and rituals.
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Produced by www.securityacademy.com