

[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

► [Safety](#)

► [Pressroom](#) (web)

► [CEO Hotline](#)

► [Metro Projects](#)

► [Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)

► [Archives](#)

► [Events Calendar](#)

► [Research Center/
Library](#)

► [Metro Cafe](#) (pdf)

► [Metro Classifieds](#)

► [Retirement
Round-up](#)

Metro Info

► [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)

► [Org Chart](#) (pdf)

► [Policies](#)

► [Training](#)

► [Help Desk](#)

► [Intranet Policy](#)

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Wrecked buses placed at Metro Division 15 show the effect of terrorist "bombs" as the injured wait for treatment.



PHOTOS: ERIC RAPP

300-Plus Responders, Dozens of 'Victims' in Anti-Terrorist Drill

(Oct. 12, 2004) When "terrorists" attacked several Metro Buses loaded with dozens of volunteer "victims," Oct. 8, more than 300 law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics and emergency workers responded.

Arriving at the three "disaster" scenes, the first responders saw massive "bomb" destruction – wrecked and burned buses that appeared to be filled with and surrounded by the dead and dying.

The disaster drill, dubbed "Angel Overload," was played out at the Veterans Administration grounds in West LA and at Metro's East Valley Division 15 and West Valley Division 8. The buses were wrecks transported to the exercise areas by Metro.

While Sheriff's deputies, LAPD and CHP officers, FBI agents and others searched for the "terrorists," LAFD firefighters and paramedics triaged and treated the blood-covered "victims" – UCLA theater arts majors, Makeup Designery students and Metro employee volunteers.

The purpose of the three-location exercise



A paramedic takes the pulse of Division 15 Assistant Transportation Manager Barbara Maycott, a badly wounded "victim." With her is Division 15 Stenographer Darlene Blake, wearing a sling for her "broken arm."



A Makeup Designery student is prepared with fake blood and a

was to train responders in rescuing, transporting, triaging and treating badly injured terror victims. They also practiced toxic decontamination procedures and arson and explosion investigation techniques.

"Angel Overload" involved more than 80 police, fire and emergency vehicles and three helicopters. It was one of the largest terrorist disaster drills conducted in Los Angeles County.

realistic "wound" prior to the anti-terrorism disaster exercise.



Sheriff's deputies coordinate the response to the terrorist attack during the drill in West LA.



Two UCLA theater arts majors await treatment for their "wounds" during the anti-terrorist drill in West LA. (José Ubaldo photo)