

# Canine Training at the ITC

by Keith Rogers

For the past several years, Explosive Detection Canine Teams (EDCT) have played an ever increasing roll as a reliable tool for Bomb Squads and we have seen increasing numbers attending the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators (IABTI) annual International Training Conferences (ITC).

Over the past several years, the ITC has conducted several days of EDCT break-out training sessions including lectures, veterinary health information, demos and actual training for EDC handlers at these conferences. Typical attendance at these sessions has been 20-30 classroom attendees and anywhere from 8 to 22 canine teams. This year's attendee list included three handlers from Region VII. The week long break-out session, coordinated and presented by the TSA National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program (NEDCTP), had classroom presentations on all five days and four canine team training days in a wide variety of areas.

Attendees were required to hit the ground running as canine handlers with partners had training on the opening day of the conference. Monday, training was conducted at a local elementary school and included a multiple luggage scenario in the school gymnasium, school locker searches and searches of office and library areas. Tuesday's training was conducted at a local mass transit facility where



*Instructors L to R; Connecticut State Trooper Mark Linhard, NEDCTP Operations Branch Chief (Acting) Bill Csontos, NEDCTP Field Canine Coordinator Kevin Gray and NEDCTP K-9 Explosives Branch Chief Keith Rogers.*

teams were challenged to find the explosives concealed on, around, or inside several public transportation service busses. Wednesday's training was conducted at a Louisville Airport rental car lot utilizing roughly 20 vehicles parked in a secured parking lot. Several presentations were set up including one that had nearly 50 pounds of high explosives concealed in the trunk of a vehicle. Friday's training mission was the introduction/imprinting of teams to a variety of home made explosives (HME) that are currently posing a significant threat both

domestically and internationally.

The week was voted a great success by the attendees who expressed an increased interest in future IABTI events. The IABTI and NEDCTP would like to thank the Louisville Airport Police, the Louisville Metropolitan Police Department, the Kentucky State Police Bomb Squad and the local office of the FBI for their assistance in making this event such a success.

*Pictured on the cover, from left to right :*  
*Tim White, Waleed Sulayem Al Junaibi, W. David Kuhnell, Stephanie Rendle, Andy Rendle, Jenni Hebel, Jason Boyer, Jason Hairgrove, Pando Stepanis and Khalid Mohammed Al Naqbi.*

