

## Terror drill finds culprit with dirty bomb

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It was only a drill, but the scenario was still terrifying.

A boat loaded with radioactive materials sailed through [New York Harbor](#) Friday. A multiagency task force - led by state-of-the-art [NYPD](#) boats - was assigned to stop the interloper.

"We're trying to further...protect the waterways and ports of [New York City](#) from any acts of terrorism or any incidents that may occur," said [Deputy Chief Joseph McKeever](#) of the NYPD counterterrorism division.

More than 17 boats from a variety of agencies, including the [Coast Guard](#), [FDNY](#) and [New Jersey State Police](#), set up a checkpoint underneath the [Verrazano Bridge](#) at the mouth of the harbor to scan all incoming vessels.

"The [New York](#) ports are probably one of the busiest in the nation, and in the world," McKeever said. "We are developing our capacity to deal with that traffic on a day-in, day-out basis."

Scores of boats were boarded and searched during the drill, which officials said was the largest counterterrorism exercise in the city's history and allowed the NYPD to test two new \$750,000 radiation-tracking boats.

The Tracs boats successfully stopped a speedboat named The Last Dollar and found a device that simulated the same radiation as a dirty bomb.

"We have improved our abilities to deal with traffic in the harbor immensely in the last five years," McKeever said, "and we'll continue to do that."