

CMRJ525 W6 DISCUSSION

Student's Name

Institutional Affiliation

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### **Negotiating with Veteran vs. Non-Veteran Hostage Takers**

When negotiating with veteran hostage takers, understanding their unique demographics and characteristics is crucial. Military veterans often exhibit high levels of discipline and structured thinking and may suffer from PTSD due to combat experiences. These factors require negotiators to use a respectful and authoritative tone, acknowledging the veteran's service and expertise. Clear, direct communication is essential, as it aligns with their preference for structure. Additionally, being mindful of potential PTSD triggers and employing de-escalation techniques that consider their psychological state is vital. For instance, avoiding sudden movements and loud noises can prevent exacerbating their stress.

In contrast, negotiating with non-veteran hostage-takers necessitates a more flexible approach. Non-veterans might not respond well to the same level of structured communication used with veterans (da Silveira Cabral, 2021). Instead, building rapport through empathy and understanding their unique backgrounds is more effective. Non-veterans may have different stressors and psychological triggers that need to be addressed differently. For example, focusing on their issues and genuine concern for their well-being can be more impactful.

The key differences between these approaches lie in the communication style and psychological considerations. A structured, respectful approach acknowledging their military background is crucial for veterans. For non-veterans, a more adaptable, empathetic approach that builds rapport and understands their circumstances is necessary. Tailoring negotiation strategies to address each group's specific needs and psychological factors enhances the chances of a successful resolution.

### **Gathering Intelligence on a Hostage Taker**

When faced with a situation involving a hostage taker, my first step will be to gather as much information as possible from available records. I'll start by collecting basic details about the subject: a 35-year-old Hispanic male with a "Death From Above" tattoo, indicating potential military or gang affiliations. I will review the arrest details and any background information in the system to form an initial understanding.

Next, I will leverage available resources to deepen my knowledge. I'll use local, state, and federal law enforcement databases to search for prior records or affiliations. This comprehensive check can provide insights into the subject's criminal history or previous interactions with law enforcement. Additionally, I will contact local authorities in the subject's home state, as they might have pertinent information or records that are not readily accessible through national databases.

In the digital age, technology is a powerful tool for intelligence gathering. I will conduct thorough searches on social media platforms and online databases to uncover more personal information, such as connections, behavior patterns, and any public posts that might give clues about his state of mind or recent activities (Frampton & Fox, 2021). Reviewing surveillance footage from the time of the arrest is also crucial. This can provide further context about his demeanor and interactions, helping me to understand his current mental state and behavior.

Finally, I will conduct interviews and observations to gather firsthand insights. Speaking with the deputy and officers involved in the arrest will give me valuable information about the subject's behavior and statements during the arrest. Additionally, I will monitor the hostage taker's behavior through surveillance or direct observation to assess his mental state and identify potential vulnerabilities.

By combining these methods, I will develop a comprehensive intelligence profile of the hostage taker. This thorough approach will ensure that I am well-informed and prepared to handle the situation, ultimately increasing the likelihood of a successful resolution.

## References

Da Silveira Cabral, E. de S. (2021). *Veteran Managers and Adaptation in Team Leadership* [PhD Thesis, ISCTE-Instituto Universitario de Lisboa (Portugal)].

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Frampton, J. R., & Fox, J. (2021). Monitoring, creeping, or surveillance? A synthesis of online social information seeking concepts. *Review of Communication Research*, 9, 1–42.