2016 SUMMER SOLSTICE SADHANA AND SECURITY REVIEW

Feedback and suggestions from 3HO Solstice Sadhana Management or other interested parties for the purpose of improving this 2016 Solstice Sadhana Security Review are hereby requested.

CAMP SETUP AND TAKEDOWN CREWS:

Camp setup was behind schedule by at least two days. The big tents were still being set up all the way until Thursday, June 16, 2016, the start of Summer Solstice Sadhana. Crews could be organized and supervised better. **Security equipment from previous years was lost.**

Solstice Sadhana setup currently follows a reactionary model, whereas security setup must be executed proactively. There is now a four-day window between when Security needs to be functioning, and when camp setup is ready to support Security and their equipment needs. The camp needs to be ready two days before Solstice Sadhana starts, not four days after.

SECURITY OFFICE: The Security office was a great building, but it lacked…

A) Furnishings.

B) Enough keys for all the shift captains. The installation of a combination lock solved this problem and made the office (with bars on the windows) a more secure building.

BTW: The use of the four-wheeler was invaluable. **Thank you very much!**

LOGISTICS:

A) The administrative process of sending runners to town for additional keys was a total failure.

B) The radios were very good, but were delayed in being distributed.

C) Some of the Security equipment from last year that was so carefully inventoried last year was lost. The site-training map and key box were gone.

D) The idea of building up needed Security equipment from year-to-year is unrealistic. The need to develop and acquire new equipment every year is troublesome. Security team never knows what we have until you get to the Solstice Sadhana site. We need to know well in advance.

RADIOS:

Radios are an important tool.

A) The use of the radio on a private channel as an alarm clock for the night shift is totally inappropriate.

B) Night shift needs to get their personal alarm clock.

C) The clustering of channels on the radio was good. However, it is better to have Security, Sheriff, Administration and First Aid all clustered together so that in an emergency, any of these entities can be reached easily.

NEW CAMP LAYOUT:

A) The adverse impact of the new camp layout on the implementation of Security was not consideration by 3HO staff.

B) Some Security Stations are more critical than others. 3HO Management did not consider this.

C) There were two new Security Stations created by the 3HO Management team on the fly, which adversely impacted Security's ability to secure the front gate. The new Stations added little to the Security and Safety of the camp.

D) The front gate was damaged during set-up, but was given low priority for repair, leaving the most important Security Station inoperative and unmanned, due to Security Personnel being diverted to marginally important areas such the Bazaar gate and a second post near Registration.

E) The Unintended gate Security assignments have low Security importance in the total scheme of Camp Security. Security Personnel had no shade from the scorching sun. This is the suspected cause of two sentries leaving the team after four hours on their first shift.

F) The Security in depth concept requires multiple layers of contact points in the process of entering camp. The front gate is like the front door of a house, which is the first line of protection. **Imagine protecting your house by leaving the front door open and guarding the bedroom doors.** This is what happened this summer.

H) The front gate lights were up, but we could not complete the Security mission.

REGISTRATION:

Registration went well when it was open.

A) The need for pre-Solstice Sadhana registration hours need to be extended to 9:00 PM, is important, but is problematic to Registration staff. This is true of all the Solstice Sadhana teams that need to provide services before the start of the event.

B) When registration is closed, Security Personnel have to fill out a late arrival form for each person entering camp.

C) Security needs the list of service exchange people, plus the list and photos of banned people, before Solstice Sadhana starts.

FIRE SUPPRESSION:

Fire emergency program is totally inadequate. Security did not have any fire extinguishers, nor even know where the fire extinguishers were located. Fire extinguishers need to be of large capacity. **If one car in the parking lot is totally engulfed in fire, it could quickly spread from car to car.** Fire procedures are an important part of Security training and Security response to a fire emergency.

A) Who on the 3HO administration team is going to initiate the “fog” horn (one horn was missing this year) warning to meet in the Tantric shelter, and

B) How effective is this plan going to be? **NOTE: YOU CANNOT COMMUNICATE YOUR WAY OUT OF A CRISIS.**

TRAINING:

There were four days of Security training; most of the service exchange people and Karma Yogi People were trained before they went on shift.

A) It is difficult to train people when the process of moving people through camp is not completely understood.

B) Training materials and SOPs don’t reflect the new layout/process.

C) The camp Google map is lost, which reflects on the performance of the camp setup and takedown crew.

D) Security training takes place before the start of Solstice Sadhana. When we don’t have the list/photos of restricted people and VIPs, training can’t be complete.

E) The Security strategy, equipment and training materials need to be in place three days before the start of camp.

RECRUITMENT:

Inadequate Security Personnel were not due to the lack of the Security Manager’s efforts to recruit participants, but the failure of 3HO Management to promote the Seva concept, plus the need for Security Personnel in their pre-Solstice Sadhana outreach.

PEACE PRAYER DAY:

A) 3HO’s Peace Prayer Day failed to provide identification and/or badges for PPD participants.

B) Poorly designed traffic flow at the registration tent created a dangerous traffic situation and a breach of Security.

C) The Healing Walk ended after 11:00 PM. From a Safety/Security point of view this is unacceptable.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

3HO Management needs to:

1. **Acquire Project Management software with 'Gant Charts' to better organize and manage the Solstice Sadhana preparation process in a timely manner.**

2. **Install and automate gate at the entrance to GRDP, and Staff the gate with adequate Security Personnel 24/7.**

3. **Reorganize the realities and traffic patterns at the registration gate, putting a parking area dedicated for registration business on the left side of the registration gate, followed by the Registration tent, followed by the luggage parking area and tent. Use the right side of the road for bus parking and turn-a-round.**

4. **Direct vehicles from the luggage area to the parking area with signs and barriers to eliminate the need for Security Personnel to direct traffic.**

5. **DO NOT automate the interior gates within the Solstice Sadhana site. These gates have limited Security value. Automated gate is a major maintenance issue during Solstice Sadhana, plus it is unused for the rest of the year. The Camp gate (swing gate) is staffed with Security Personnel 24/7. Use a chain and snap link to keep the water tower and Bazaar gates closed.**

6. **Have Peace Prayer Day non-Solstice Sadhana participants sign the liability release AT THE REGISTRATION GATE and receive an ink hand stamp, administered by Registration personnel, so that Security Personnel can identify them as Peace Prayer Day participants. IMPORTANT: The Sacred Healing Walk should end BEFORE 9:00 PM, when Peace Prayer Day people should have vacated the camp.**

7. **Have an improved Camp fire Protection Plan, with Safety and Security considerations included in the planning and training of the emergency response.**

8. **Photo ID badges for ALL Solstice Sadhana participants.**

NOTE: Ram Dhan Singh, and Charanbir Singh have humbly submitted this Solstice Sadhana Security Review. Any comments, recommendations and assistance from 3HO Solstice Sadhana Management or other interested parties for the implementation of future Solstice Sadhana Security operations are hereby requested.

Thank you! Sat Nam!