During 2015 I applied for the ARTHUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP to attend any seminar in Gimborn Germany. Two days before my birthday I received the good news from our President Vossie Vos that I had been selected for the scholarship in 2017. That was truly exciting news. I immediately checked the website for seminars I would like to attend and made my selection.

I decided to register for the IBZ seminar “Understand Cybercrime” No17/36, although I would also like to attend the Course on “Terrorism – Europe, a target for Islamistic terrorists”. During August 2017 I received an email stating that IBZ- Gimborn decided to change the focus of “Understand Cyber Crime” to “Cyber Crime, Cyber Threats and Cyber Terrorism”. I was needless to say ecstatic about the change as both seminars was on my preferred list of seminars to attend. Having both as one........................Priceless!!!!!

Because of this once in a lifetime opportunity I decided to make the best there-of and stay a few days longer to see and experience as much as possible.

I departed on Saturday 18/11/2017 with a direct flight to Frankfurt Germany and then by train to Cologne. After passing through Cologne/Bonn airport to pick up another seminar attendee we drove to Gimborn, we arrived, via a small winding road passing a few small villages, at Gimborn on Sunday at about 13:30. I stood in astonishment in front of this magnificent building - Gimborn Castle. At the same time I felt so small to stand before any building so old, as this Castle stood the test of time. Remember South Africa was only founded in 1652 and we do not have any buildings as old.

On Monday as the seminars started we were welcomed by the seminar chair Sean Hannigan. He gave us more insight of the week to come, housekeeping rules, expectations and objectives of the seminar. We then had the opportunity to introduce ourselves, sharing some personal interests and work experiences. We were 14 attendees from 9 different nationalities:

Christos – Greece
Kostas – Greece
Ieva – Lithuania
Thomas – Austria
Kostantinos – Greece
Hans - Germany

International Police Association
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ARTHRUR TROOP SCHOLARSHIP
Cybercrime, Cyber Threats and Cyber Terrorism
Seminar- Nr. 17/36
FEEDBACK REPORT 2017
John – Sweden
Des – Ireland
Natasa – Slovenia
Damjan- Slovenia
Mikha – Slovenia
Eleanor – Ireland
Barbara – Scotland
And of course myself from South Africa.

More about the seminar.
Cybercrime, cyber threats and cyber terrorism are a worldwide phenomenon, which does not stop at National borders. Is a Cyber Terrorist a virtual freedom fighter? Is Cyber Terrorism an attack that uses the computer as a weapon of warfare? Do we speak of Cyber Terrorism when it comes to recruitment, propaganda purposes and support gathering? However if the wrong people are given the right training in order to increase their technologies skills, they might be able to cause massive damage to societies’ infrastructures. There is an urgent need to increase cyber security standards within countries and across national boundaries. Security agencies should have strong technical capacities i.e computer science skills. (Seminar Programme Seminar – Nr. 17/36)

This seminar aims to reduce ignorance and uncertainty attached to Cybercrime, cyber terrorism and will aim to unveil the myths behind it. The evaluation of computer forensics in investigating cyber terrorism was presented and was illustrated with examples.

The seminar had the following Speakers and topics.

1) Markus Jahnke, State Criminal Police Office (Landeskriminalamt), Mainz
   Terrorism and the Factor Internet

2) Alice Hutchings, Criminologist, Cambridge Cybercrime Centre
   Cybercrime in the sky: An overview of travel Fraud

3) Bart Haley, Detective Sergeant, Eastern Region Cybercrime Unit, UK
   Operation Polarity (the Titanium Stressor case)

4) Madeline Cheah, Senior Cyber Security Analyst, Control Centre, Horiba MIRA Ltd., Nuneaton
   Automotive Cyber security – state of the art attack and defence and the implications for Police Professionals in cases of terrorism

5) Sarah Carthy, National University of Ireland, Galway
   Violent online radicalization; Understanding the source, the message and the Target
6) Yosef Kuperwasser, Brig. Gen. (Res) Jerusalem for Public Affairs, Israel  
Jihadist Cyber Terror and Security

All of these seminar topics of the day were discussed in the evening at the “Turmbar”. At the end of the week we were not Turmbar survivors, I believe that the bar survived us. I am of the opinion that this seminar must be longer, to discuss the topics of the day in depth with more practical exercises and examples.

All good things must come to an end. On Friday we greeted and exchanged contact details and we also created a whatsapp group for future discussions on the topic of Cybercrime and to simply stay in touch.

Last but not least. I would like to thank IPA International for granting me the ATS. This was truly a life changing experience. My attendance at this seminar was a wise investment and will pay off for years to come.

Also as a special added value of this seminar, I had the opportunity to network with other Police Professionals, which was an exceptional opportunity for horizontal exchange of experience.

Claude Malan  
Vice Chairman - IPA Johannesburg  
South Africa Section  
10/12/2017