

Presentation European Conference

Title: Hooligans: "The Dutch Approach"

First slide: Introduction

Thank you for your introduction,

Good morning.

My name is Walco Bakker I'm a staff member of the CIV since 2009 and I was invited to tell you something about our organization and the things that we do. After my presentation you're able to ask my some questions and I hope to answer them to your satisfaction.

Slide 2: Content of presentation

In this small presentation I'll show you the way the CIV works in the Netherlands and I'll give you some backgrounds about the CIV.

I'll also tell something about our tasks and responsibilities.

Our data base

Our International Role and the way we exchange information

The challenges we meet because of the movement of hooligans outside the match days.

And the way we focus on our Hooligans

Slide 3: The CIV

The CIV was started in April 1986. Freely translated CIV means Central Information point Football hooliganism. The CIV is a police organization that was created in recommendation of the National Consultative Committee.

Since the 1970's Hooliganism was rising in Europe and in 1974 the first major riots in the Netherlands took place. This was after the UEFA Match between Feyenoord – Tottenham Hotspur. Twelve years later these two clubs met again and this time the riots were even worse. On the Dutch television there were even images shown of a Hotspur supporters that was stabbed. After this these incidents there was a sense of urgency and one

off the product was the CIV. today the CIV is separately funded by the Ministry of Interior and controlled by chairman of the board of police chiefs.

Slide 4: National Role

Nationally, the CIV main task is to collect and distribute information that's related to football violence. This information is gathered through several information points and intelligence offices in the Netherlands. We also have direct contact with police officers that are connected to Football clubs in the first and second football league. This way we keep track of incidents and developments related to football violence. We also create an annual report that's send to our national partners and local organisations.

Next to these annual reports the CIV advises different national working parties. These working parties create and develop new policies and works together to manage the problems surrounding football.

We are also responsible for the National Football Police team. This is a team of police officers that visits matches of our National Team. There main role is to 'spot' hooligans during these matches and advise local police organisations during these matches. The team is composed of police officers that daily work with hooligans and supporters on a local level in the first and second league. For instance officers form the city of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Den Hague.

We also created and manage a National database that holds operational information surrounding football matches and incidents. I'll tell you something about this database in this next slide

Slide 5: VVS

In 1996 the CIV launched a National Database called VVS. Freely translated this stands for Football Follow System. Through this web based application the local police forces are able to register all information surrounding matches and incident. Over the years to system was improved and more partners were invited to use this system.

In the Netherlands we work in chain of partners that also includes civil parties. Since a few years not only government parties, as the ministry, public prosecution and polices forces are part of this system. Butt also civil

parties as the National Football Association and Safety officers from football clubs in the first a second League.

We try to work as transparent as possible, so when a police officer registers incidents during a match this is seen by the safety officer from the club and vice versa. This way you get a total picture of what happened in and outside the stadiums and during and after the match.

The information in the system that's registered by them police is then controlled by us and the information that's registered by the safety officer from the club is controlled by the Dutch Football Association.

The system also contains personal data of arrested supporters and is used to follow the progress from arrest to conviction. During this progress the prosecution is able decide if an incident is a football related problem. If this is the case than there able to forward an arrested person to the section from the system that's available for the Dutch F.A. Then the Dutch F.A. is able to give the arrested person a civil stadium ban as well.

You are not only in this system if you're arrested.

Slide 6: Hooligan Database

There is also the possibility to register hooligans in the system. This is an example of a dossier of a hooligan in VVS. This information is obtained by information desks and intelligence offices and then registered in VVS.

Currently the system holds dossiers of 600 hooligans and 8000 arrested supporters. In dossiers of the hooligans will hold information such as:

- used Vehicle, composition of friends and family, current job and employer, bans, measures, known associates and the position in his group. Like member, follower, leader or director.

I'll tell you more about how we address the problem with hooligans further in my presentation.

Slide 7: International Role

It's clear that the problems in professional football are not confined to our country. The CIV plays a pioneering role in the propagation and realization of information exchange surrounding Football in Europe. Internationally the CIV is known as National Football Information Point the Netherlands.

We were one of the first NFIP's in a network that currently counts 33 NFIP's.

These NFIP's all have similar roles like the CIV and exchange information surrounding football.

The CIV also takes part in several working parties such as the European Think Tank and advises the Council of Europe. We also use this network to deploy our earlier mentioned 'Spotters'.

How do we exchange information internationally?

Slide 8: Information Exchange

We manage a website's that's called the NFIP website. This web based application is created by us and through the website members exchange operational information that is similar to the information in the VVS. With the exception of personal data and dossiers of hooligans.

The website shows mainly information about supporters from Clubs that participate in the UEFA leagues and European and World Championships.

Slide 9: Example website information.

Here you'll see a pre match form with information that was registered by the NFIP in Spain. The form shows that a group of Ultrassur supporters are travelling towards Amsterdam for the match Ajax – Real Madrid. There was information about the size of the group, the means of travelling and that they were going to start problems.

This information was then shared with the local police in Amsterdam en they waited for them to arrive. They followed the group and heard them shouting racial texts. They police of Amsterdam was assisted by 'Spotters' from Spain and together they stopped the group and frisked them for weapons. They found bats, prepared jackets and other weapons. A part of the group was then arrested and the other members were brought back to the airport and were send back to Madrid without ever reaching the match.

This off course is a schoolbook example for how thing should go. I would be the last one to say that we fixed the Hooligan problem. Hooliganism is a problem that exists for thousand of years. Even during the Roman Era there was hooliganism. One of the first registered rises of hooliganism was in 532 past Christ. This happened after a carriage race in Constantinople.

When the ruling Emperor finally stopped the fighting, 30.000 people found their death.

So that bring us to the question: How do the Dutch manage the Hooligan Problem. Well first I'll show you an example of the new type of hooligan problem we experience.

Slide 9: What if it's not a match day?

Short Movie (2:20)

Explain waterbed effect, typical Saturday afternoon, arranged fight and compliments after the fight.

Slide 10: Focus on Hooligans

On of the way we address the Hooligan problem is through the project Focus on Hooligans. Actually were putting the focus on the leading persons amongst the hooligan groups. From many to smart. From a lot of police officers during a game, to the focus on the intelligence and information position by the police.

Slide 11: Hooligan Network

This is an example of a hooligan network. All these persons are connected and these persons could be contacted to fight if the leader or director of the group calls them.

This is what happens if you're able to take away the leader. I'm talking about one person. You'll see that the whole network is divided. Of course a new leader will rise, butt this will always be a weaker leader. Otherwise that person would already have been the leader in the first place.

I'm talking about focusing at a director, one of the persons who's able to arrange fights. We do this by gathering information and working together with several parties.

Local police officers will visit the hooligan at his home or even at his work. They will get extra checks at the airport. The tax service and financial services will focus on his income and savings. The football clubs and Football Association will ban him from matches. The prosecution office will make sure he will get more priority when he's arrested, so he will punished faster.

In most cases the hooligan will stop his activities and just say they want their life back.

Slide 12: questions?

Questions?