



Emergency Medicine Society of South Africa

MIMMS – Major Incident Medical Management and Support

INTRODUCTION

History

- 46 Countries – NATO Standard
- Imported in 2008 by NDOH
- Roll out to all provinces before FIFA 2010
- Western Cape – training about 800 First Responders per annum

MIMMS – Who

- Provincial EMS Services country wide
- Private EMS – country wide
- South African Military Health Services
- Forensic Pathology Services (W.Cape)
- State and private hospitals



What is a

MAJOR INCIDENT?



Major Incident Definition

An incident where the

NUMBER, SEVERITY, or TYPE
of LIVE casualties,
or by its LOCATION,

requires EXTRAORDINARY resources

Major Incident Definition

An incident that presents a serious threat to the health of the community

An incident that disrupts the health service

Major Incident Frequency: civilian

An aerial photograph showing a major rail accident site. A train has derailed in a grassy field, with several passenger coaches overturned. A large number of emergency vehicles, including fire trucks, ambulances, and police cars, are gathered around the site. A yellow helicopter is landed on the left. A road to the right is completely blocked by a long line of cars and trucks, indicating a significant traffic disruption. The surrounding area includes some residential buildings and open fields.

UK 3-4 per year, range 0-11

SA data??? – database needed

Major Incident Classification

- Compensated
- Uncompensated

Major Incident Classification: uncompensated



Uncompensated
Major Incident

=

DISASTER

CSCATTT

- Command and Control
- Safety
- Communication
- Assessment
- Triage
- Treatment
- Transport

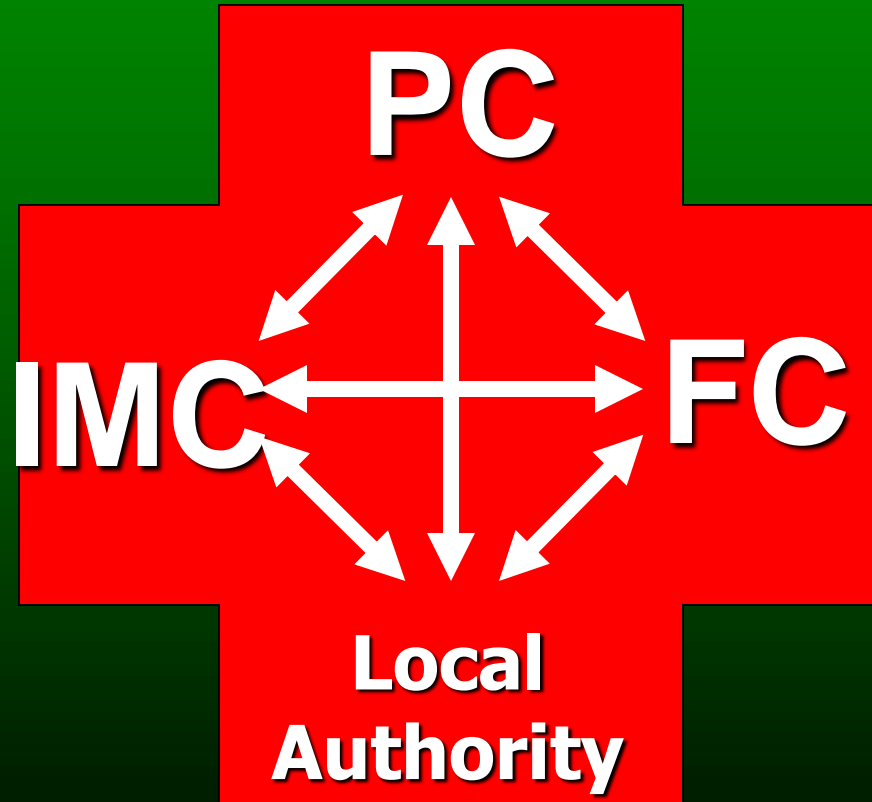
MIMMS

Command and Control

- Command and control are the cornerstones of major incident management

- Good command and control requires good communication both vertically and horizontally

Command and Control



Scene Command and Control

Control of Movement

- Outer cordon
- Inner cordon



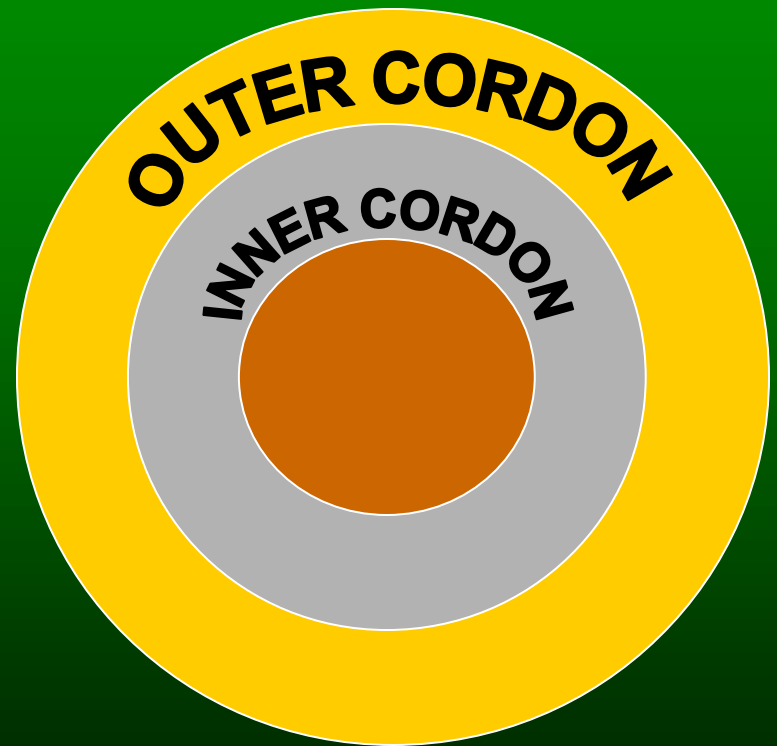
SILVER

BRONZE

Command and Control

Tiers of Command

- Bronze (operational)
- Silver (tactical)
- Gold (strategic)



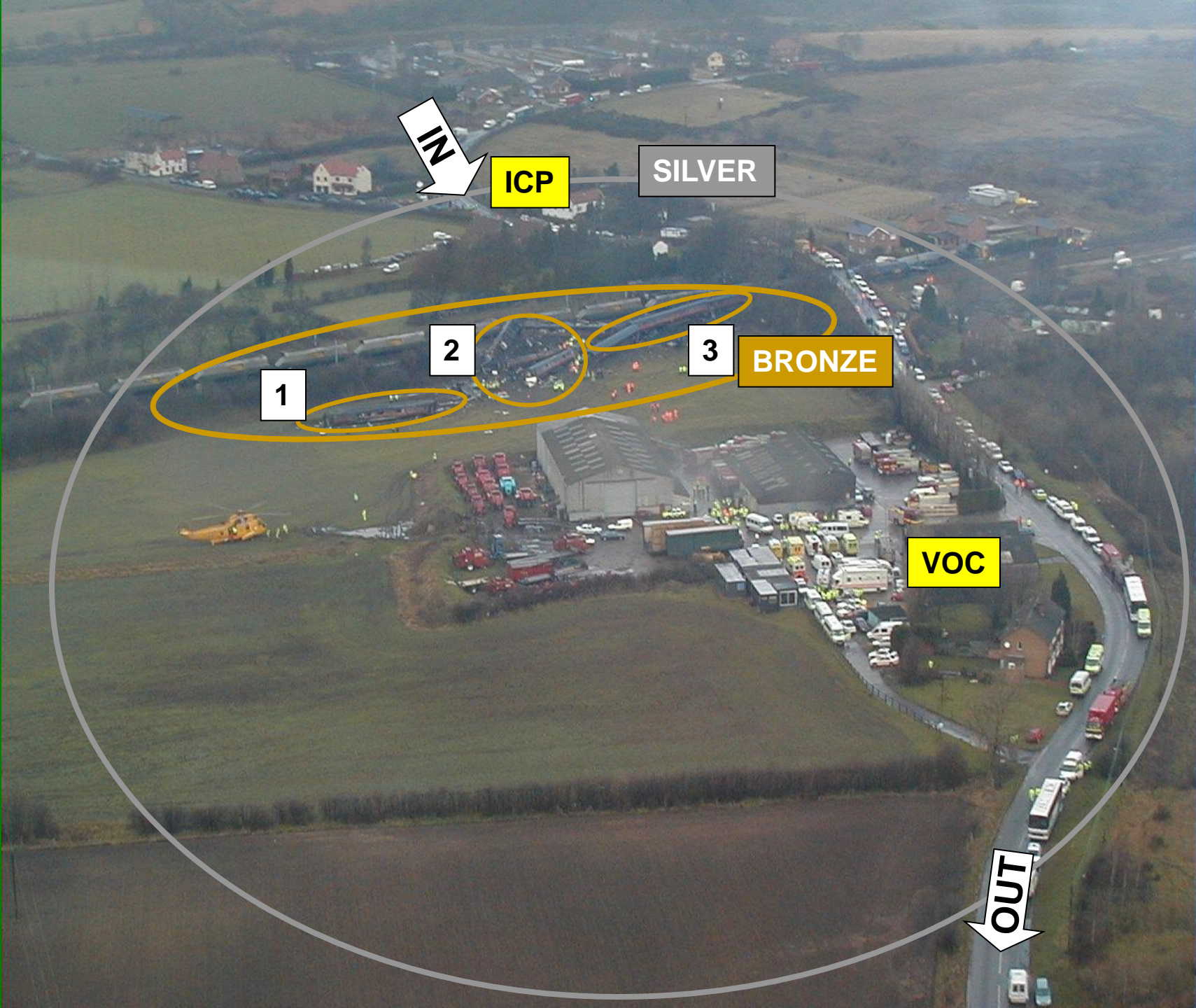
Command and Control

Bronze (operational)

- Bronze commanders are directly responsible to their silver commander
- The first EMS vehicle on scene become silver command (Incident Medical Commander)

Command and Control Sectors

- A number of sectors may exist within a single incident
- Each sector is a bronze area
- Each sector has forward commanders
- Silver control oversees all bronze areas



IN

ICP

SILVER

1

2

3

BRONZE

VOC

OUT

Command and Control

Silver (tactical)

- Incident commanders form “Silver Control”
- Incident commanders may physically move into the Bronze area
- More senior officers may take over the job as they arrive

Command and Control

Gold (strategic)

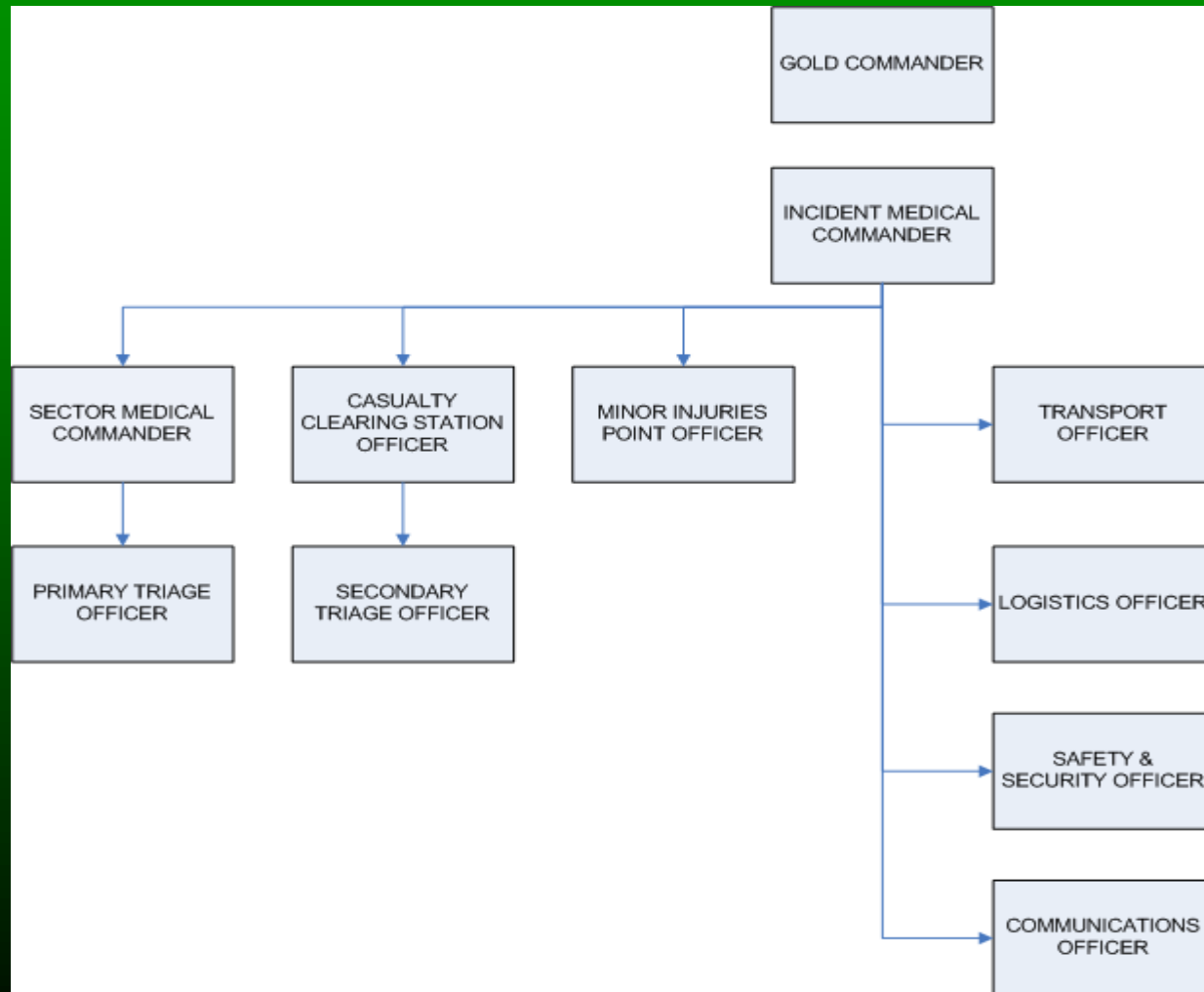
- Distant from the scene
- Chief officers of emergency services
- Local authority and other representatives

Command and Control Health Services

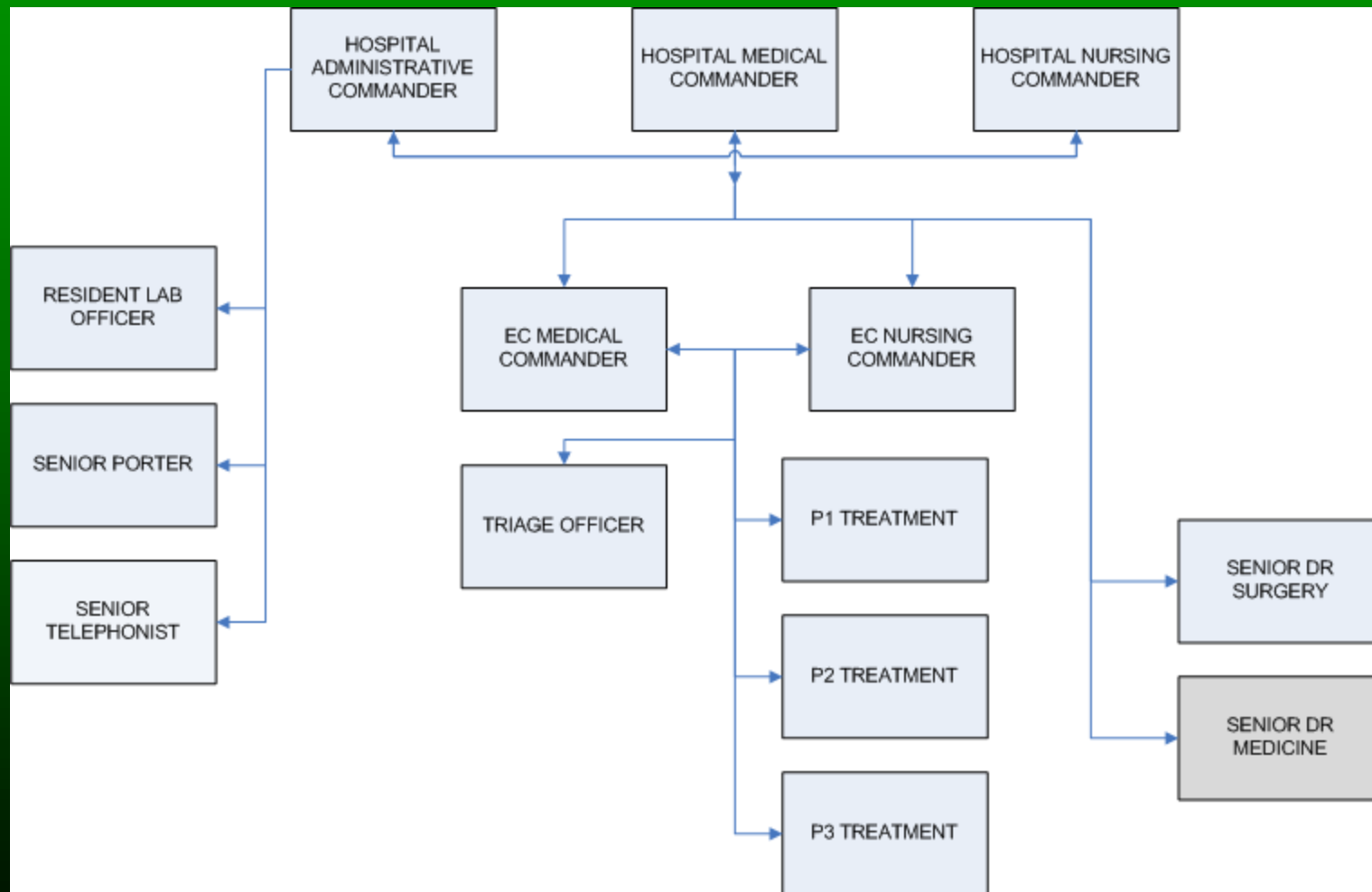
- Ambulance
- Medical



MIMMS – Pre hospital



HMIMMS – Hospital



Incident Medical Commander

- **Command**
 - In charge of Health Service resources
 - Delegation of key tasks to other officers
- **Safety**
 - Overall responsibility for safety of health service personnel (delegated to Safety & Security Officer)
- **Communications**
 - Liaison with other commanders

Incident Medical Commander

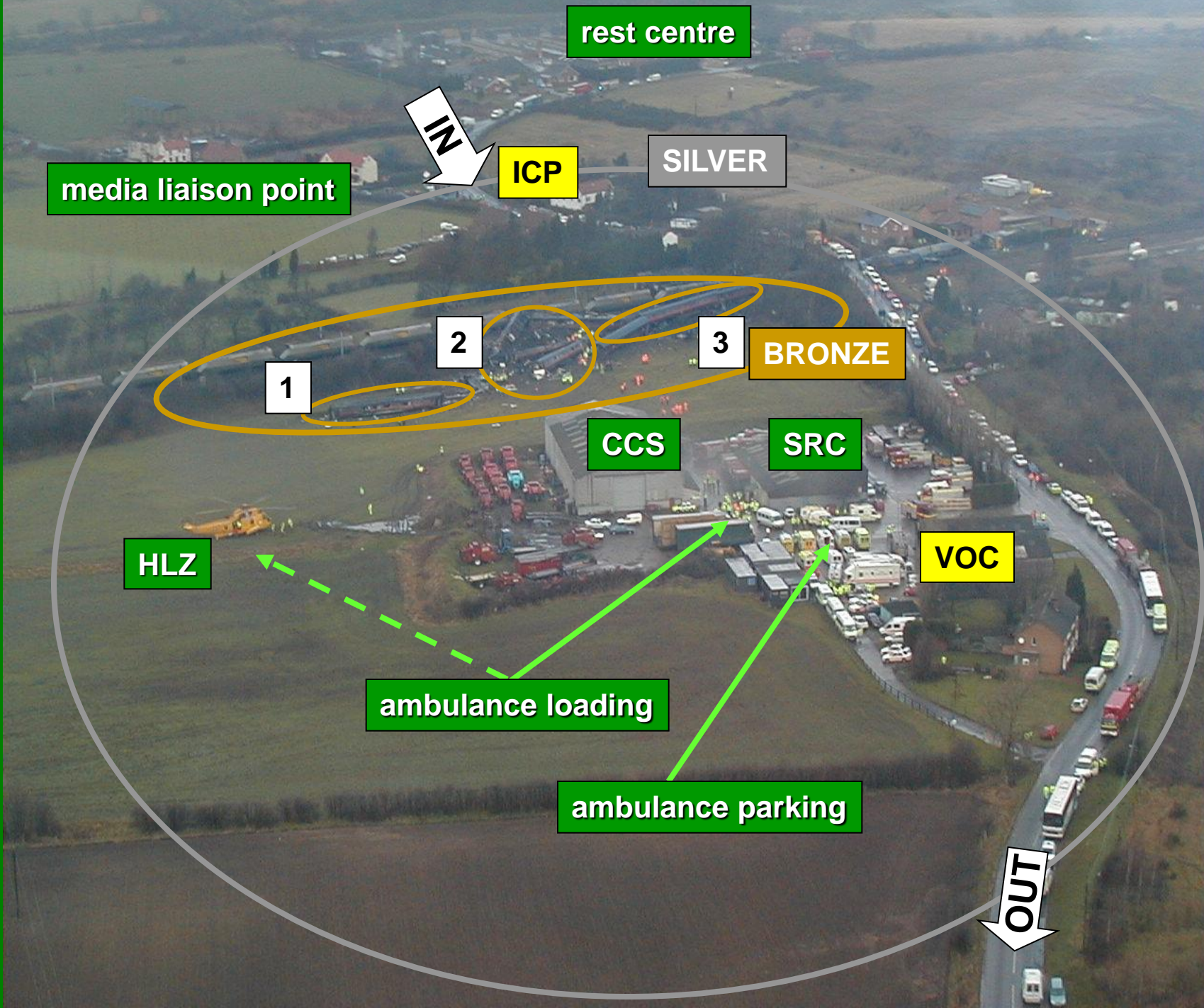
- Assessment
 - Health service scene assessment
 - Need for additional ambulances
 - Need for medical support
 - Need for voluntary agency support
 - Need for equipment

Incident Medical Commander

- Triage
 - Oversee scene triage
 - Determine the use of the expectant priority
- Treatment
 - Oversee treatment
- Transport
 - Organise the provision of suitable transport

Sector Medical Commander

- Bronze controller
- Direct health service resources to ensure correct triage on the site
- Direct health service resources to ensure correct treatment on the site
- Direct health service resources to ensure adequate and timely transport to the Casualty Clearing Station



rest centre

media liaison point

IN

ICP

SILVER

1

2

3

BRONZE

CCS

SRC

HLZ

VOC

ambulance loading

ambulance parking

OUT

Command and Control Summary

- One service will have overall CONTROL
- Cordons will be set up
- Different tiers of COMMAND will operate
- Incident Medical Commander is in charge of the health service response

- Poor communication is the commonest failing in major incident management

Communication

Causes of Poor Communications

- Lack of information
- Lack of confirmation
- Lack of co-ordination

Poor discipline and poor liaison

I was left with the clear impression that opportunities to pass vital information between the emergency services were missed

Desmond Fennell, OBE QC
Investigation into the Kings Cross Fire

- Questions ?