PENNSYLVANIA INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN NO. 125

16 AUGUST 2010

The Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security produces this informational/intelligence bulletin specifically for all potentially-affected stakeholders – whether public or private sector, federal or Commonwealth of Pennsylvania-based Critical Infrastructures, Key Resources and Significant Special Events. Consider the information & intelligence contained herein in context with other known information, indicators, threats and warnings.

DATES OF INTEREST

- **Current-31 August 2010:** In the general escalation in Irish republican terrorism, Marching Season in Northern Ireland is a period of several serious potential flashpoints for violence. Heightened situational awareness is called for among students and faculty with overseas programs in Northern Ireland (e.g., Millersville University and the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

- **Current-31 August 2010:** The anarchist organization, **CRIMETHINC.**, is conducting what they have called "a decentralized convergence." Targeting communications indicate a focus on evading or sabotaging law enforcement.[1]

- **Current-31 August 2010:** Black August, promoted by anarchists and Black Power radicals, commences; marking "the advances and sacrifices of Black Freedom Fighters," according to militant literature. A potential trigger date in Pennsylvania is what Black Power radicals call an "urban slave revolt" (riot) that took place in Philadelphia on **16 August** 1965.[2]

- **Current-9 September 2010:** The lunar month of *Ramadan* is a period of fasting and reflecting for Muslims. During *Ramadan*, devout Muslims refrain from eating during daylight hours, generally concluding each day with a meal known as *Iftar*. Jihadists consider it an auspicious period for attacks in the name of

[1] http://www.crimethinc.com/
[2] http://mxgm.org/blackaugust/blackaugust-history/

Islam. In the midst of the Muslim holy month, Muslims mark *Lailat Al-Qadr* (Night of Power) on **5 September 2010**. *Ramadan* is followed by a three-day festival known as *Eid Al-Fitr*, starting on **10 September 2010**.

- **16 August 2010:** The anti-abortion, Susan B. Anthony List organization has launched a "Votes Have Consequences Express" bus tour through 23 cities. Pennsylvania stops on the tour include:

  - 8:45 in Erie (Erie County) at the Erie Intermodal Transportation Center
  - 10:30 at the Bicentennial Park in Meadville (Crawford County)
  - 12:15 at the Grove City Memorial Park (Mercer County)
  - 13:45 at Diamond Square Park in Butler (Butler County)

  Some heated verbal confrontations between the opposing sides may ensue.[3]

- **16-24 August 2010:** The International People's Democratic Uhuru Movement (InPDUM), a pan-African, nationalist-socialist group, has called for three rallies this month in support of imprisoned Black convicts and against what it is calling "war on the Black community":

  - Monday, **16 August 2010**, at the Uhuru Solidarity Center (3733 Lancaster Ave.) in West Philadelphia

  - Monday, **23 August 2010**, at Black & Noble, on Broad and Erie St. (in North Philadelphia)

  - Tuesday, **24 August 2010**, at the Philadelphia Criminal Justice Center (13th and Filbert St.)

  There are no indications of planned violence or civil disobedience on behalf of Diop or the other inmates; however, the gatherings have the potential of drawing a broad, dangerous cross-section of opportunistic anti-authoritarians and Black supremacists.[4]

- **19 August 2010:** Anti-natural gas drilling activists have taken note of an open academic seminar on the development of the Marcellus Shale Formation area at Marywood University in Scranton (Lackawanna County). There may be more

[3] http://www.sba-list.org/site/c.ddJBKJNsFqG/b.4009925/k.BE63/Home.htm
[4] http://www.inpdum.org/

activists from both sides of the drilling issue than can enter the Student Center, leading to potentially volatile confrontations outside the hall.

- **21 August 2010:** The following event has been singled out for attendance by anti-natural gas drilling activists: Gas Stock 2010, an environmentalist rally focused on the Marcellus Shale Formation drilling, at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds in Dallas.

- **27 August 2010:** Conservative political leader Sarah Palin, former Republican vice-presidential candidate, is the featured speaker at the Pennsylvania Family Institute's banquet at the Hershey Lodge in Derry Township (Dauphin County). The Pennsylvania organization is active in opposing abortion and same-sex marriage, as well as promoting other socially conservative political positions.

- **27 August 2010:** An outdoor screening of *Gasland* is scheduled for Clark Park in West Philadelphia. Another screening is scheduled for the same day in Frick Park, Pittsburgh. An additional screening is slated for **3 September 2010** at the Piazza in Northern Liberties (near the Delaware River) in Philadelphia.[5]

- **8 September-1 October 2010:** The Jewish high holiday season may present additional risk factors, with very high attendance at Jewish houses of worship and public gatherings in Pennsylvania. This year, the Jewish High Holidays fall on the following dates:

    - Rosh Hashanah - **8-10 September**
    - Yom Kippur - **17-18 September**
    - Sukkot - **22-24 September**
    - Simchat Torah - **29 September-1 October 2010**

- **11 September 2010:** The following meeting has been singled out for attendance by anti-natural gas drilling activists: Pennsylvania Forestry Association meeting to discuss the Marcellus Shale. Location unidentified, but ITRR research indicates Mechanicsburg (Cumberland County).

- **11 September 2010:** Burn a Koran Day, initiated by Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Florida, where the organization is intending to hold a massive Koran-burning bonfire.

- **12 September 2010:** Burn the Confederate Flag Day, targeted at the Tea Party and 9/12 movements, which are holding rallies on the same day. Proponents of

[5] http://gaslandthemovie.com/

the flag burning have call the Tea Party "racially divisive" and guilty of hosting an annual "hate fest."

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES
GOVERNMENT FACILITIES
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

1. ***Self-Described 'Radicals' to Protest Pittsburgh Energy Center***

A new environmental militant group, the **SHADBUSH COLLECTIVE**, is planning to protest at the opening of the Consol Energy Center on 18 August 2010 in Pittsburgh. The grand opening, as noted by Shadbush activists, is to include entertainment by famed singer Paul McCartney.[6]

> "Join us to crash Consol's big grand opening party ... We'll have banners and signs to hold and flyers to distribute to concert goers," the Shadbush Collective's call for action says.

According to Shadbush communications, Consol Energy is being targeted because it "bought the naming rights to the Penguins' new arena ... hoping that it could promote its brand name and its filthy industry here in our city. Consol is a leading miner and trader of dirty coal, its long wall mining practices have hurt communities here in southwest Pennsylvania for decades and the emissions from dirty coal-fired power plants are irreparably changing our climate. Consol's natural gas subsidiary, CNX is using a new and devastatingly invasive process called Hydraulic Fracturing to extract natural gas across Pennsylvania."

In a somewhat related event in the Pittsburgh area, also noted by environmentalist activists, there will be a public hearing at the Pittsburgh Public Schools Administration Building (341 S. Bellefield Ave.) on 23 August 2010. The activists are calling on supporters to "urge the Board of Education for Pittsburgh Public Schools to pass an immediate resolution that Pittsburgh Public Schools has not and will not sign a lease for natural gas drilling on District owned property."

In addition to urging for speakers to sign up to address the meeting, anti-drilling activists have called for a rally "outside the main Bellefield Avenue entrance .... Wear your Anti-Fracking shirts!"

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[6] http://www.marcellusprotest.org/node/78

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: MODERATE**

Analysts expect a more vigorous protest at the Consol Energy Center grand opening than might be evident from the Shadbush Collective communication cited above. The Collective is expressly dedicated, according to its own literature, "to develop a more radical response to the climate crisis and environmental injustice as they manifest in Pittsburgh and throughout our region." Generally, such statements indicate the adoption of direct action and similar civil disobedience tactics.

On the other hand, the protest at the Pittsburgh Board of Education meeting is expected to conform to legal, non-militant protest parameters. This assessment may change in the event that the meeting becomes a topic of discussion in more radical environmentalist forums.

Law enforcement responsibilities will primarily include crowd and access control, as well isolating any uncontrolled protesters. It is unknown whether the sponsoring groups have obtained the necessary police permits.

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES
GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

2. ***Anti-Drilling Activists Training as 'Citizen Journalists'***

Several anti-natural gas drilling groups in the New York and Pennsylvania regions are promoting free "citizen journalism classes" in Binghamton, New York.

The catalyst for the classes is a planned public meeting announced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to discuss hydraulic fracturing. The meeting, originally slated for Binghamton, has been postponed to an as-yet undecided date, possibly in September. The decision was prompted by the indications of an unexpectedly large turnout, more than 5,000 people and the inadequacy of available halls to safely host them all at this time. (PIB Nos. 118, 121 and 124)

As acknowledged by the anti-drilling activist communications, "This EPA hearing is going to be massive and unprecedented." Therefore, the communications continue, "WE WILL NEED AN ARMY OF CITIZEN JOURNALISTS to cover this event!" Those who attend the two days of classes - tentatively scheduled to be held on the days immediately preceding the rescheduled EPA meeting - will learn "how to perform Values-Based Journalism, which is a form of advocacy journalism, but grounded in sound reporting."

Citizen journalists, the communications make clear, will legitimately be able to obtain a press pass for the EPA meeting.

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: MODERATE**

The above decision to train citizen journalists ahead of the EPA meeting is a confirmation of analysis (PIB No. 124) that both anti-natural gas drilling and pro-natural gas drilling activists are expected to redouble efforts ahead of the updated event. In addition, in light of the projected limited space inside the EPA meeting, anti-drilling activists may well be intending to use "citizen journalism" press passes to obtain access to the hall for purposes of disruptive protest actions.

As previously noted, analysts believe the above targeting guidance focusing on the EPA - by both environmentalists and landowners' advocacy groups - may lead to local activist actions at the offices of the EPA in Philadelphia. In addition, the agency "has field operations and laboratories" in Pittsburgh, according to EPA publications.

In the past, calls for assistance in putting pressure on the EPA from environmentalist militants have led to sympathetic actions in Pennsylvania. As noted in PAIB No. 50, anti-mountain top removal [referring to a coal mining method] activists decided to target the EPA offices in Philadelphia for a sit-in on 1 March 2010 in reaction to events out-of-state.

Regarding the potential for confrontation between anti- and pro-natural gas drilling activists, landowners and anti-natural gas drilling protesters have already confronted each other in heated argument outside a hearing of the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) in Trenton, New Jersey (PIB No. 113). Confrontations between the two groups may be triggered at the Pennsylvania EPA offices as well, depending on events at the above-mentioned New York public hearing or during September's anti-EPA, **RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK** protest in Washington.[7]

Communities with small police departments are advised to review contingency plans in the event that such meetings or confrontations escalate significantly. It is unknown whether the protesting groups have obtained the necessary police permits.

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

3. ***Residential Opponents of Drilling Discuss 'Direct Action'***

A communication list dedicated to sharing information among opponents of natural gas drilling in Susquehanna County has cited an upcoming picnic on 19 August 2010 as a "good opportunity." The implication is that it is a good opportunity to hold a public protest of some nature.

The Bud George Day picnic, at Mountz Park (Clearfield County), is to be attended by US Senator Bob Casey, Governor Ed Rendell, US Congressman Joe Sestak and

[7] http://ran.org

State Representative Camille George. Noting the VIP list, an anti-natural gas drilling activist commented, "Senator, Governor, Congressman and state Rep. all in one place!!!"

Parallel with this communication regarding the upcoming outdoor event, Susquehanna County residents who oppose natural gas drilling on their land claimed to have been harassed and threatened, as well as having been subject to criminal break-ins. The communications have cited horses getting shot at and threats from "neighbors that they are going to make her life miserable until she signs a lease," and more.

In reaction to the building confrontation over natural gas drilling in Susquehanna County, one new anonymous communication declared: "The enemy owns our lawmakers; all we own is our voice of truth. We'd better make it LOUD!"

Another commenter said that only "civil disobedience" actions will be effective in stopping the drilling companies.

Yet another comment added: "Not every action needs to be news worthy.... The 'pros' can step in front of a truck, after making sure that the cameras, lighting and make-up are just right, if that's what floats their boat.... Not once have I seen anyone suggest that a bus be diverted from NYC to train local people in peaceful civil disobedience or stealthy information gathering, the correct way to photograph, gather data and record environmental damage correctly.... How to write letters to administrative officials, how to reduce personal injury to a minimum if a gathering goes haywire because some peace officer hasn't read the Constitution thoroughly. Maybe one the renowned authors or 'reporters' could do a session on successfully getting Media coverage. The possibilities are endless.... A local bring a dish to pass day training session or overnight pitch your tent training camp session would be a great asset."

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: LOW – MEDIUM**

Analysts have not yet seen indications that local residents faced with natural gas drilling activities are prepared to take the next step to direct action attacks; however, there has been a steady increase in the heated rhetoric on both sides of the drilling issue.

Analysts believe that law enforcement responsibilities at the Bud George Day picnic will primarily consist of crowd, traffic and access control, as well isolating any uncontrolled protesters. It is unknown whether the anti-natural gas drilling activists have obtained the necessary police permits.

GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

4. ***Multiple Risk Indicators in Turkey***

Multiple terrorist adversaries have indicated ongoing targeting of Turkey in recent days.

An Al-Qaeda Message to the Turkish People

In a 20 minute audio message to the Turkish people, released this past weekend, ***AL-QA'IDA*** chieftain Ayman Al-Zawahiri cites the Turkish flotilla that ended up in an on-board clash with Israeli forces off the coast of Gaza. He uses that event as a pivot to call for a unified global jihad, while emphasizing that the last great Islamic empire was under Turkish rule.

According to Zawa

The siege is a crime and one of the Islamic nation's tragedies. This is why we need to change the current situation if we want to restore the status of the Islamic nation - and it will change only with operational actions."

Zawahiri continues: "The Turkish people should ask their gov

The Turkish people should take responsibility for their destiny and restore their glory, the glory of the Ottoman Empire and the defenders of Islam."

Addressing "Turkish Muslim brothers," Zawahiri calls upon them "to resist the secular government that kills like any other crusader country. The jihad fighters in Afghanistan stand by their brothers in Turkey, the Philippines, Somalia and everywhere else, and thus you shoul

."

In addition, the latest recruitment video also singles out Turkey as a member of the NATO coalition fighting against Muslims worldwide.

PKK Still on the Attack

The **KURDISTAN WORKERS' PARTY** (**PKK**) has claimed responsibility for last week's explosion at one of the valves of the *Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan* (BTC) pipeline, causing it to shut down for an estimated two weeks.

The attack was the second of its kind this year, with a March bombing by PKK terrorists damaging an Iranian-Turkish natural gas pipeline.

Meanwhile, the US State Department has issued an advisory regarding the increased risk of insurgent violence in Turkey. This advisory follows previous alerts of increased PKK activity. The US officials specifically indicated PKK threats to attack in urban areas and tourist sites.

Adding fuel to the fire, newly published images reported on in the mainstream Western media would seem to indicate that Turkey is using chemical weapons in its attacks on Kurdish rebel bases and strongholds.

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: MODERATE**

Global Jihad
Analysts note that in 2009 and earlier this year *Al-Qa'ida* made a concentrated effort to recruit Turkish Muslims to the global jihad. In a recruitment video released 22 February 2010, a man speaking Turkish called on Muslims to join the jihad, specifically advocating suicide bombings.

In 2009, an *Al-Qa'ida* recording praised Turkish jihadists in the context of an increasing focus on Germany as a high-profile target. The recruitment of Turkish Muslims to the jihad takes on greater significance for the West in light of the large Turkish expatriate community in Germany, with unlimited access throughout the European Union.

The presence of Turks among the jihadists in Afghanistan may be intended as training for their eventual deployment as stealth cells within the Turkish population in Germany; this, in light of the explicit threats issued against German forces in the past by Afghanistan-front jihadist leaders.

Kurdish Insurgency
Kurdish terror attacks have been on a steep increase in recent months. Stepped up Turkish operations against the Kurdish insurgents, increased activity by Kurdish terrorist forces based in Iraq during the summer months, the PKK's declared renewal of attacks, Turkish counter-terror initiatives, the explicit threats of the **KURDISTAN FREEDOM FALCONS** (a.k.a. **FREEDOM HAWKS OF KURDISTAN**; **TAK**) against Turkish cities - all indicate a period of increased risk in Turkey at the present time. There is also a possibility that the Kurdish rebels will collaborate with other militant or jihadist groups that see Turkey as a tool of the West.

Preferred potential targets for Kurdish terror cells include government and military assets, army convoy routes, as well as high-profile tourist or cultural venues. There may be an increase in attacks on the latter, however, as PKK and TAK cells attempt to follow through on their threats. In 2009 several attacks on civilian targets in Turkey were believed to be PKK operations, including an attempted suicide bombing at Bilkent University in Ankara and several smaller bombings at public venues in Istanbul.

Considering these multiple risk indicators, analysts recommend increased situational awareness at and in proximity to German and Turkish assets abroad, including attention paid to identify pre-operational surveillance or probing by adversarial agents. Analysts expect an increase in terror operations within Turkey as a result of the recent targeting guidance. Potential targets include symbols of Turkey's government including banks, the court system and areas near government offices.

Pennsylvania-based students and faculty attending the Philadelphia-based American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) facilities in Ankara and Istanbul, as well as University of Pittsburgh summer school students in the country, are advised to maintain heightened situational awareness at the current time. Analysts further recommend adherence to any instructions provided by Turkish security forces.

GOVERNMENT FACILITIES
ENERGY

5. ***Chechen Jihadists Claim to Have Attacked Energy Company***

On Thursday 12 August 2010, the head of the **ISLAMIC EMIRATE OF THE CAUCASUS** (IEC), Dokka Umarov, claimed that his fighters attacked a facility of Gazprom, Russia's natural gas extraction company, on 9 August 2010.

Umarov said the bombing was intended to demonstrate the Russian failure in defeating th However, as there was no damage or casualties, Russian authorities only took notice of the attack when Umarov announced that it took place.

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: MODERATE**

As analysts previously warned, jihadists from the *Al-Qa'ida*-affiliated IEC are expected to attempt attacks within Russian towns and cities, assuming operational capabilities and communications remain intact. There have been several recent arrests by Russian authorities, which would seem to indicate a successful disruption of these IEC plans for large scale attacks.

Nonetheless, regardless of the continuing success of the Russian counterterrorism campaign, analysts believe the Caucasus-based jihadist groups are under pressure to prove organizational resilience by carrying out a new major attack. Such an attack would also serve to assert the authority of the hunted and reportedly ill leader Umarov, as well as consecrating new operational leaders following recent Russian decapitation operations.

Significantly, the IEC has targeted an energy infrastructure facility in its latest attack. This is in line with previous IEC and *Al-Qa'ida* strategies to target economic assets. Furthermore, jihadists have discussed using Moscow-area forest fires as part of their current jihad. As of this writing, there has been one oblique reference in a jihadist communication indicating that some of the massive Moscow-area fires may have been the result of jihadist arson. However, this remains unsubstantiated.

Pennsylvania-based students and faculty participating in Russian educational institutions (e.g., Bryn Mawr College in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Vladimir) should be advised of the current increase in risk of attack throughout Russia. Researchers and linguists pursuing continuing studies through American Councils

and similar programs in the Caucasus regions of Russia are particularly vulnerable to attack and abduction by local jihadist elements.

While there are, as yet, no indications of IEC or other Caucasus terrorist capability in North America, the increasing globalization of *Al-Qa'ida* and its affinity groups leaves open the very real possibility of such capability developing just below the radar. In addition, lone-wolf jihadists of Slavic or Caucasus background may be inspired by aggressive anti-Russian incitement in Russian-language jihadist communications (See PAIB No. 87 for more).

No emerging Indicators, Threats and/or Warnings at this time for the following sectors:

- Agriculture and Food
- Banking and Finance
- Chemical Industries
- Commercial Nuclear Reactors, Materials & Waste
- Critical Manufacturing
- Dams
- Defense Industrial Base
- Emergency Services
- Government Facilities[8]
- Information Technology
- Postal and Shipping
- Public Health and Healthcare
- Telecommunications
- Transportation Systems
- Water

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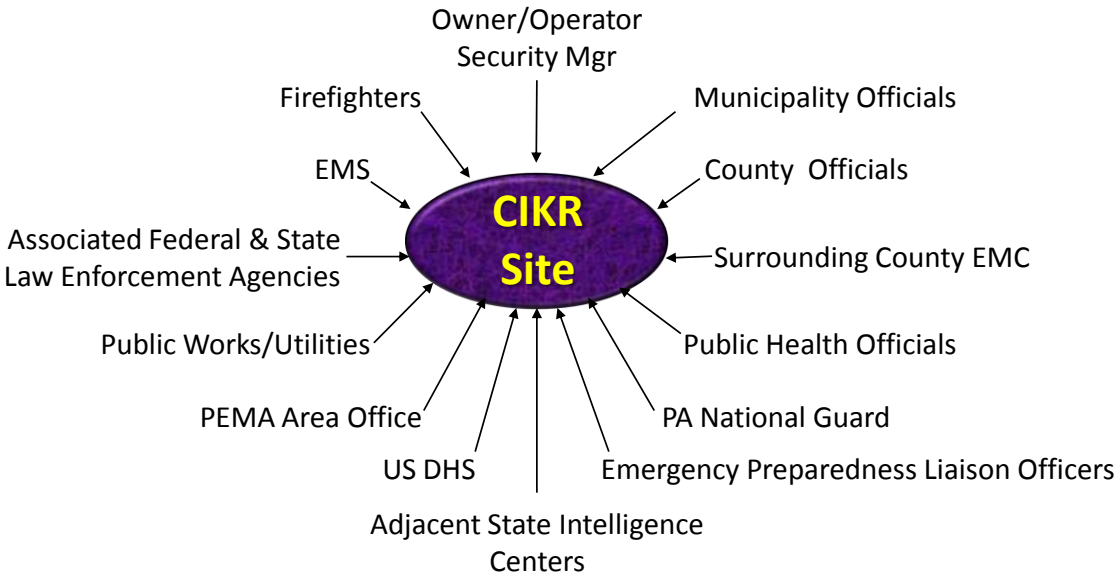
[8] Educational Facilities Sub-Sector: Security directors, students and faculty of all Pennsylvania-based colleges and universities participating in educational exchange programs abroad need to remain cognizant of emerging, country-specific threats, indicators and warnings.

Goal: Situational Awareness Among All Stakeholders

- The Information-Sharing Community -



THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	*DESCRIPTION*
LOW (Level 4)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have little intent or capability to take action against the target. Although it cannot be ruled out, an attack is unlikely based on currently available intelligence.
MODERATE (Level 3)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have the intent and capability to take action against the target. An attack is likely to be a priority and might well be executed.
SEVERE (Level 2)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have the intent and capability to take action against the target. Additional information is also available on the nature of the threat. An attack on the target is a priority and is likely.
CRITICAL (Level 1)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements not only have the intent and capability, but also are actively planning to take action against the target within a matter of days (up to two weeks). An attack or action is imminent.

Source Summary Statement

The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response (ITRR) produces this document specifically for the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security in support of National Priority #3: Implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and all public and private sector, critical infrastructure protection-related initiatives and strategies.

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