Institute of Terrorism Research AND Response

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN NO. 95

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The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response (ITRR) produces this document specifically for the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security in support of public and private sector, critical infrastructure protection initiatives and strategies. The ITRR, a commercial research and analysis organization, uses open-source, human and closed-source intelligence resources to derive products. ITRR used only native-tongue researchers (English, Hebrew, French, Arabic and Spanish) in the collection, interpretation, translation, analysis and production of this product. The analysis is performed by former law enforcement officials, counter-terrorism experts and military intelligence personnel. Consider in context with other known information.

ACTIONABLE DATE REMINDERS

5 June-13 June 2010: Pittsburgh Gay Pride 2010 events include:

- **5 June** - Dyke and Trans March starting in Morrow Triangle
- **12 June** - Pride in the Street outdoor party
- **13 June** - Pride Awareness March and concluding festival

These annual events take on significance due to recent anti-gay chatter among right-wing militia supporters. As of this date, no specific targeting has been identified by ITRR.

8 June 2010: The Constitutional Organization Of Liberty (COOL), an organization "dedicated to helping reintroduce to the people of Pennsylvania the principles and ideals upon which this republic and this commonwealth were established," is sponsoring the Second Annual State Capitol Taxpayers' Protest in Harrisburg. (Details herein)

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11 June-11 July 2010: The FIFA 2010 World Cup in South Africa has generated intense and serious jihadist communications regarding the execution of attacks during and at the games. Pennsylvania students, faculty and researchers attending South African educational institutions should be made aware of the specific risks associated with attending World Cup games this year. Jihadist communications have focused on tactics and strategies for attacks on sports events. These venues deserve heightened awareness due to ongoing high-profile professional and collegiate sporting events in Pennsylvania.

13 June 2010: Philadelphia hosts the well-attended and popular Philly LGBT Pride Parade and Festival. These annual events take on significance as actionable dates based on recent anti-gay chatter among right-wing militia supporters. As of this date, no specific targeting has been identified by ITRR.

19 June 2010: Worldwide animal rights groups will be marking the International Day of Action for Elephants in Zoos. In Pennsylvania, activists are planning to protest at the main entrance of the Philadelphia Zoo on this day.

19 June 2010: The violently racist, White supremacist group known as the **ARYAN NATIONS** is set to hold a rally at Gettysburg National Military Park. In response to this event, organizations billed as anti-fascist are planning to take unspecified "actions" against the Aryan Nations event; this may include violent disruptions. In addition, there is a smaller risk of anarchist targeting of law enforcement and park service assets as "retaliation" for the rally permit issued to the Aryan Nations.

25 June 2010: Sentencing date for convicted Pennsylvania militia member Marvin Hall. One of five members of two militia groups operating in Clarion and Clearfield counties charged with weapons violations. Hall pleaded guilty in January 2010.

25-27 June 2010: Let Live Conference at Portland State University in Oregon. Described as aimed at "build[ing] a stronger, more effective community and animal liberation movement." Likely to have an impact on animal rights activism nationwide.

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SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

1. ***Al-Qaeda Calls for Taking Christians Hostage***

Abu-Sufyan Al-Azdi, a senior leader of **AL-QAEDA OF THE ARABIAN PENINSULA** (**AQAP**), has released a new audio communication calling for abduction and hostage-taking operations in order to free jihadist prisoners, especially female Islamists.

In the 18-minute recording, Al-Azdi provides specific guidance to obtain the release of imprisoned female Islamists, including family members of jihad fighters in jails "throughout the Muslim world." He calls on Muslims the world over to raise money and collect intelligence for operational cells dedicated to freeing the imprisoned women by means of:

- Taking and holding Christian civilians hostage
- Attacking the Saudi royal family
- Attacking senior military and political figures

Al-Azdi then addresses AQAP cadres specifically and adds: "We want you to carry out abductions in order to free our women prisoners, and to be an example for all members of the organization [Al-Qaeda] and [other] jihadists."

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: MODERATE-to-SEVERE**

ITRR analysts note that Al-Azdi has begun to appear more often in AQAP communications, indicating his growing role in the organization and, therefore, the relative value of his communications as intelligence documents.

Recent communications from AQAP, including the above, have included specific guidance and targeting, which may well indicate firm intention to carry out a significant attack or kidnapping in the near term. For Al-Qaeda, as noted in PAIB No. 91, the entire world is a single theater with many individual fronts. Thus, ITRR analysts caution that abductions inspired by the AQAP communication need not be perpetrated specifically in the Arabian Peninsula.

The Al-Qaeda branch that has been most active in abductions and hostage-taking has been **AL-QAEDA IN THE ISLAMIC MAGHREB** (**AQIM** - North Africa). The group has perpetrated many kidnappings or obtained hostages captured in states bordering the regions where AQIM has significant bases of operation. Mali, Niger and Mauritania, specifically, have become high-risk regions for Westerners (PAIB

Nos. 23, 30 and 31), even as AQIM is based primarily in Algeria. Somalia has also seen a rise in the number of Western hostages as the Al-Qaeda-linked *Shabab Al-Mujahideen* have made serious inroads in that country (PAIB No. 37). There has generally been high mobility in hostage-taking operations perpetrated by jihadist groups.

In light of the ongoing multiple risk indicators, ITRR analysts recommend that Pennsylvanian students, faculty, researchers and volunteers in North and East Africa, as well as in other high-risk Muslim-majority regions (such as areas of the Philippines, Indonesia, Russia and India), enhance accountability, vary travel routines and increase situational awareness.

2. ***Taxpayers' Protest in Harrisburg***

Harrisburg: The Constitutional Organization of Liberty (COOL) is to hold an all-day "Taxpayers' Protest" at the Pennsylvania state capital on 8 June 2010 [initially reported in PAIB No. 87].

Organizers referenced the first such protest last year when "taxpayers made history as they rallied together in Harrisburg, working the hallways of the State Capitol Building on a session day, to demand that their government reduce spending and lessen the tax burden for all Pennsylvanians ..." This year, they are calling on supporters to "make the 2010 Pennsylvania State Capitol Taxpayers' Protest a greater success!"

COOL hopes to recruit enough taxpayers to "fill all of the offices of the state representatives and senators, as well as the halls and rotundas," because, the organizers declare, "then it will be impossible for big government to ignore the call for fiscal responsibility! Join us in the fight for our economic freedom!"

To that end, they provide the following instructions:

1. "After you have made it through security, go to your respective state representative or senator's office and sit in their chairs and on their floor, wherever you can find room."

2. "If your legislator's office is filled, find another's office that isn't!"

3. "If all the offices are filled join fellow taxpayers in the Main Capitol Rotunda near the front entrance and the Rotunda in the East Wing, [then find] a bench or a step and stay the full working day."

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

The above protest is intended to be both legal and passive. Law enforcement will be primarily called upon to provide crowd control and to ensure public access at the capitol building. No civil disobedience is currently indicated as part of the planning for this event; however, it cannot be completely ruled out as protesters intend to flood the area (insofar as they can) for the entire working day, which may lead to confrontation over their presence.

ITRR is not aware of police permits obtained for the Harrisburg event, if any are necessary.

Sectors: Commercial Facilities, Energy and Government Facilities

3. *Anti-BP Candlelight Vigil in Montrose*

Montrose: The far-left MoveOn.org is calling for a candlelight vigil at the Montrose Green following a screening of the film *Gasland* at the Montrose Theatre on 8 June 2010. The focus of the protest and the film is the oil and gas industry and its environmental impact, specifically in the wake of the BP Gulf of Mexico oil disaster.

The organizing group is also calling for additional "emergency Oil Spill Vigils to demand an end to America's addiction to oil. Can you host a vigil in your area?"

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

Indicating future issues for the organizations working on gas extraction from the Marcellus Shale region, a similar showing of *Gasland* with a linked protest will be occurring in Ithaca, NY on 12 June 2010.

In the nature of candlelight vigils, the Montrose event is expected to be both legal and passive. Law enforcement will be primarily called upon to provide crowd control. No civil disobedience is currently indicated as part of the planning for this event.

ITRR is not aware of police permits obtained for the candlelight vigil, if necessary.

Sectors: Commercial Facilities and Government Facilities

4. *Iranian Anti-Islamic Regime Protests Expected to Return*

12 June 2010 marks the one-year anniversary of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's re-election and the subsequent civil uprising that engendered. Protests in and outside Iran are being prepared.

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In recent weeks ahead of the above date, Iranian authorities have been arresting activist students, as well as introducing thousands of fresh para-military, volunteer forces (*Basij)* and others into the streets of Tehran. Nonetheless, young Iranians are expected to attempt to hold an anti-regime protest in the capital and elsewhere.

Worldwide, Iranian pro-democracy activists are planning their own protests on 12 June 2010. The major North American protest rally against the Iranian regime is slated for outside Iran's Mission to the United Nations in New York. Other pro-democracy events will take place in: Seattle; Los Angeles; Washington DC; Boston; Phoenix; Portland; Dallas; Miami; Minneapolis; Kansas City; Madison; San Francisco; Berlin; Munich; Frankfurt; Budapest; London; Oxford; Bahrain; Tokyo; Cairo; Johannesburg; Aalborg in Denmark; Amsterdam; Stockholm; Paris; Melbourne; New Delhi; Oslo; and Toronto.

******** ANALYSIS ****** T/I/W Rating: LOW-to-MODERATE**

Law enforcement will be primarily called upon to focus on crowd control. There is also the possibility of "direct actions" at or near the event. Officers will likely identify and isolate more violent elements, as well as put riot prevention and containment measures in place.

Personnel responsible for or associated with businesses and other assets in the vicinity of the protests are advised to take precautionary measures against damages that may result from clashes with counter-protesters (pro-**HEZBOLLAH**) or with police.

Last year, Iranian pro-democracy and anti-Islamic-regime protests took place in Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia and on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh and elsewhere. Similar events can be expected this year as well; although, as of this writing ITRR does not have specific information regarding planned protests in Pennsylvania.

No actionable information or intelligence at this time for critical infrastructure in the following sectors:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
BANKING AND FINANCE
CHEMICAL
COMMUNICATIONS
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
DAMS
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES

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EMERGENCY SERVICES
HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS
NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS AND WASTE
POSTAL AND SHIPPING
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS
WATER

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THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	*DESCRIPTION*
LOW (Level 4)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements currently have little capability or intent to take action against the target. It is assessed that, although it cannot be ruled out, an attack or action is unlikely to be mounted based on current available intelligence.
MODERATE (Level 3)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements have the capability to take action against the target and that such action is within the adversary's current intent. It is assessed that an attack or action is likely to be a priority and might well be mounted.
SEVERE (Level 2)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements have an established capability and current intent to take action against the target and there is some additional information on the nature of the threat. It is assessed that an attack or action on the target is a priority and is likely to be mounted.
CRITICAL (Level 1)	Available intelligence and recent events indicate that hostile elements with an established capability are actively planning to take action against the target within a matter of days (up to two weeks). An attack or action is expected imminently.

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END-CLASSIFIED-TAM-C-

For additional information, please contact the TAM-C of the Institute of Terrorism Research and Response at: +1.215.922.1080 or info@itrrintel.org

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