Institute of Terrorism Research AND Response

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #66

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

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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.

ONGOING RESEARCH

1. *Tax Day and Beyond Tea Party Events in PA*

In coordination with a planned mass Tea Party movement rally in Washington, DC on Tax Day, 15 April 2010, hundreds of thousands of movement supporters are expected to hold parallel protests in several Pennsylvania venues. (PAIB nos. 61 & 65 for Pennsylvania Tea Party-related event listings) ITRR is monitoring the run-up to the events for additional times and locations.

2. *April: A Month of 'Red Flag' Dates*

ITRR analysts have noted a series of paramilitary militia training events, as well as conferences sponsored by anti-government and racist organizations, slated for April 2010 in various US locations. Among the sessions noted was a 24 April 2010 training event organized by the Christian extremist Hutaree organization's militia arm, nine of whose members were arrested this week in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. They are charged with seditious conspiracy, attempted use of weapons of mass destruction, teaching the use of explosives and illegal firearms possession as part of an alleged plot to kill a policeman and then attack people attending the funeral. Other anti-government conferences and militia training events this month include:

- 2-3 April: the North Idaho 21st Light Foot Militia, in Middle, Tennessee
- 3 April: the Southeast Michigan Volunteer Militia training is holding its own training

- 2-4 April: Faith and Freedom Conference of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Harrison, Arkansas
- 2-4 April: a "Bible Conference" of the Stone Kingdom Ministries in Manassas, Virginia
- 1-5 April: "Passover Gathering 2010" in Sweetwater, Tennessee, organized by the racist, anti-Semitic Christian Identity movement

Several events of significance to anti-government or racist organizations took place in April:

- 19 April (1775) - the start of the American Revolution and the Oklahoma City Federal Building terrorist attack by militia supporters
- 20 April (1889) - Adolf Hitler's birthday and the anniversary of the 1999 Columbine High School massacre in Colorado

In addition to the foregoing, ITRR researchers are monitoring an anti-government militia umbrella organization, also linked with anarchist libertarian elements, that has been promoting armed, dispersed and "leaderless resistance" against what it defines as the "New World Order." Their targets include FEMA, the United Nations, banks, police, the military and other federal agencies. The group appears to have a Pennsylvania chapter. (PAIB nos. 63 and 65)

3. ***Pittsburgh's SDS 'Actionvention'***

The far-left, anti-authoritarian, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) organization is planning what they are calling an "Actionvention", most likely to take place in Pittsburgh. The SDS is currently considering 17-18 April 2010 for the event, a training, learning and action gathering which will include groups like Earth First!, anti-war groups, Mountain Justice, the Peace and Justice Center, and others. The "Actionvention" may draw confrontation-oriented radical elements. At this time, the "Actionvention" appears to be taking place in parallel to and in conjunction with the "Pittsburgh Freedom School." ITRR is continuing to identify planning and logistics surrounding the event. (PAIB no. 56)

4. ***Greek Anarchists Upping the Ante***

Police shot and killed a 35-year-old anarchist and alleged terrorist named Lambros Fountas on 10 March 2010 in Athens. Anarchist reaction to the killing has steadily escalated, including arson, vandalism and bombings in Athens and Ioannina (Janina). Students and faculty participating in programs in Greece from institutions such as Pennsylvania State University, Arcadia University, Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges, Carnegie Mellon University, and others, should be made aware of the increased risk of anarchist violence in the country. Business travelers are advised to maintain situational awareness regarding local developments, including threats to local banking and state institutions. There is also a potential of protests and possible sympathetic violence abroad. ITRR researchers are currently monitoring the anarchist networks for Pennsylvania targeting indicators. (PAIB nos. 36, 38, 59 and 62)

5. ***Anarchists Gearing Up for G8/G20 Meetings***
Starting the process towards a successful demonstration against governments, capitalist economies, borders requiring travel documents and climate change, Canadian anarchists are focusing their attention on Toronto and the G8 and G20 meetings slated for April and June. ITRR analysts believe that the Northeast Anarchist Network (NEAN) will be increasing its activities (legal and illegal) in the northeastern United States through May 2010 (billed as a "Month of Anarchy"). ITRR researchers are currently monitoring the anarchist networks for targeting indicators in Pennsylvania. (PAIB nos. 50 and 59)

6. '***Direct Action' Targeting Energy Industry***
Anti-coal mining activists and related organizations have recently been increasing training and actions targeting the coal industry and related facilities. Training sessions in West Virginia and Virginia have focused on "skills and knowledge" regarding tactics for "direct action." Eco-extremist and anti-capitalist communications of 8 January 2010 and thereafter include explicit calls for sabotage of major facilities and murder. ITRR analysts identified several specific assets and industries that may be targets for eco-activist "direct action" in Pennsylvania, including branches of financial institutions such as JP Morgan Chase, Citi Bank, Goldman Sachs and Bank of America. Other companies identified as targets of ecological activists were coal companies involved in open pit or "mountain top removal" coal operations, power companies that burn this coal, the Environmental Protection Agency and the offices of Duke Energy. (PAIB nos. 2, 20, 32, 33, 43, 50 and 61)

7. ***Anti-Nuclear Weapons Day of Action***
Anti-nuclear weapons activists are planning and perpetrating "direct actions" as practical field training leading up to an International Day of Action on 3 April 2010, slated to be an International Day of Action to ban nuclear weapons. (PAIB nos. 44, 50 and 57)

8. ***Al-Qaeda Branches Seeking Collaboration on Maritime Terrorism***
ITRR researchers have noted continuous planning for the targeting and disruption of international maritime traffic in the Arabian Peninsula region, with a specific focus on Bab Al-Mandab and collaboration between Arabian and African Al-Qaeda branches. According to ITRR analysis, the intent of the aforementioned maritime terror operation would be, among other things, to cause a direct effect on Western-bound shipping in the region. Such an attack strategy, if successful, can be expected to affect energy supplies to the Pennsylvania region, as well. Most recently, Yemen has this week increased security around oil and maritime installations in the Arabian Peninsula region. (PAIB nos. 50 and 56)

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

9. Russia: Suicide Attacks Highlight Tactics

As noted by ITRR analysts in PAIB no. 65, the double bombing on Moscow's massive subway system, which killed over 40 people, is part of an ongoing escalation in jihadist terrorism in the Russian arena (discussed in multiple ITRR alerts since late last year). Russian officials have now said that the attacks were perpetrated by women, one of whom may have been suffering from mental retardation. They believe there are at least 21 more female jihadist terrorists currently at large in Russia organized into smaller operational cells. There are indications that the cells, which originally comprised 30 members, were trained at a Muslim school in Turkey.

On Wednesday, 31 March 2010, at least 11 people were killed in an additional double suicide bombing attack in Russia, this time in the Dagestan region bordering Chechnya. In this attack, a VBIED was detonated by a suicide bomber alongside a police cruiser outside a movie theater. A second suicide bomber, wearing a police uniform, approached the scene on foot a few minutes later and detonated what was likely an explosive vest among a group of officers responding to the first attack. One of the victims of the secondary bomb was the local police commander.

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

Looking at Tactics

The latest series of bombings are significant in their use of several important tactics periodically highlighted in analysis and training by ITRR and others involved in counterterrorism.

a. The use of female attackers has been relatively rare, although it is becoming more and more common. In the case of the Caucasus, jihadist groups have previously announced the formation of female cells made up of women who lost their husbands in Russian operations in Chechnya and elsewhere.
b. The secondary bombing tactic was key in Wednesday's attack. An initial VBIED drew first responders, with a follow-on bombing targeting them as well as curious onlookers.
c. Wednesday's attack also highlighted the use of law enforcement (or other first response) uniforms to gain immediate access to targeted areas.

Looking at Russia

In PAIB no. 48, 17 February 2010, ITRR analysts suggested that the re-release of a January interview reiterating threats IEC leader Dokka Umarov began making in November indicated stepped up efforts to execute attacks in the immediate future. At this time, ITRR analysts consider the risk of follow-on jihadist terror attacks to be severe. (See PAIB nos. 16, 30, 40, 48 and 65 for more details on the IEC terror campaign.)

As recommended in past PAIB editions, students at Russian educational institutions through programs such as those of Bryn Mawr College in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Vladimir should

be made aware 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.

Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; EMERGENCY SERVICES

10. Flash Mobs: Phenomenon

Philadelphia has been witness to a "flash mob" phenomenon with more ominous overtones than some past such events (which have included activities like dancing and pillow fights).

On 20 March 2010, South Street drew youths into the streets and sidewalks. Local store owners became aware of the event and took some precautions against property crime, especially in the wake of vandalism and clashes during a previous "flash mob" event in Philadelphia. However, there were isolated criminal incidents at the 20 March event.

A similar alert went up over a planned "flash mob" event last week in Philadelphia, which sent police into the streets in greater force, with officers on foot and in patrol cars. However, there was no actual "flash mob"-type activity recorded during that evening.

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

ITRR analysts see the "flash mob" phenomenon, even if it is initiated as an innocent youth gathering and event, as potential cover for more intentional criminal activity. In addition, depending on the elements taking advantage of the event, "flash mobs" have within them the potential for developing into riots or anarchist-type vandalism.

Extensive police presence and advance intelligence may have ensured that the later flash mob events in Philadelphia did not deteriorate into violence as the earlier Center City flash mob did. At the same time, ITRR analysts note that deliberately spreading false rumors of impending "flash mobs" can be used as a means to manipulate law enforcement activity for juvenile "entertainment", for more serious criminal purposes, for pre-operational probing of security force reactions and weaknesses, or even as a diversion ahead of, or during, coordinated criminal activity or terrorist attack.

ITRR researchers are monitoring for potential manipulation of flash mob events for anarchist or other adversarial agendas.

Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

11. Targeting Nordstrom Over Israeli Products

The radical far-left organization CODEPINK: Women for Peace has targeted the Nordstrom department store chain for carrying Israeli beauty products. In response to the campaign, pro-Israel groups have called for counteractions. Thus far, the latter has only included contacting Nordstrom management for expressing views against the boycott of Israeli products.

In the CODEPINK communications regarding the campaign against Nordstrom, they provide tactical guidance for their activists and supporters. Among the suggested actions are:

* Organize a team to carry out "direct action": "An ideal team has three or more participants. One to take action, another to distract security or talk to management, and a third person to document with photographs or video."
* Ally with less radical groups or other anti-Israel organizations for a coordinated protest vigil outside the store, "while the team inside creates a ruckus."

* That "ruckus", according to CODEPINK, can include: "disrupting" (meaning: activist street theater, inside or outside the targeted store), leafleting, "de-shelving" (removing targeted products from the store shelves and leaving them in carts or baskets with anti-Israel leaflets), or "attempt to purchase and then 'suddenly realize' that the products are made in occupied Palestine and refuse to buy."

Pre-operational guidance from CODEPINK includes: "Scout for security, employees, access to location, and amount of foot traffic." The group also includes links to individuals and guidance pamphlets to assist the "direct action" effort.

In addition, CODEPINK offers post-action guidance: "Keep up the pressure! A one-time action is great, and repeated actions are even better." This may include ongoing leafleting and weekly vigils outside targeted Nordstrom stores.

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

Past anti-Israel boycott events worldwide have included protests outside the targeted stores, organized in-store disruptions, and "de-shelving" (coordinated wholesale removal of Israeli products from the store shelves) by the activists.

While thus far the pro-Israel organized response countering the CODEPINK campaign has not included counter-protests outside Nordstrom stores, this may change as CODEPINK branches announce "actions" targeting specific Nordstrom outlets. In that event, high tension between the two groups may degenerate into various types of confrontations, some potentially violent in nature.

Specifically, Pennsylvania law enforcement should maintain awareness of potential flashpoints at the large Nordstrom outlets at The Plaza at the King of Prussia Mall and at Pittsburgh's Ross Park Mall.

In addition, communities with significant anarchist populations should also be aware of the potential for more vigorous protests and direct action at Nordstrom locations or in the area of Israeli-identified facilities. In Pennsylvania, this primarily means the Israeli consulate in Philadelphia; however, potential targets for vandalism or lone-wolf terrorism in the region include any high-profile Jewish institution, synagogue or communal event. As previously noted in PAIB

no. 50, pro-Israel gatherings or counter-demonstrations during this period may be seen as population targets for attacks by extremist activists or lone-wolf terrorists.

ITRR researchers are monitoring for further CODEPINK targeting guidance specifically regarding Pennsylvania.

Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

12. Tactics: Remote-Controlled Toy Helicopter as Delivery System

A remote-controlled toy helicopter is believed to have been used in an attempt to smuggle drugs into a prison in the United Kingdom. Guards at Elmley Prison in Sheerness, Kent, spotted the remote control miniature aircraft flying over the walls of the jail and heading for the accommodation blocks one night after it was picked up by CCTV cameras. It had a small load beneath the fuselage, thought to contain drugs. However, staff could not find any trace of either the helicopter or the package which it appeared to be carrying underneath it when they searched the jail.

"Using a mini-helicopter to get contraband into jails is unprecedented," a prison source told *The Sun* newspaper.

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

ITRR analysts see the above tactic as significant in its possible application as part of a terrorist attack. This technique could be used to deliver weapons, drugs, explosives or any other limited payload into an open-air stadium or large public event, or as a flying IED delivery system itself. Remote control airplanes have been used in Iraq, Lebanon and Pakistan by insurgents to attack Western military forces.

The UK event is suspected of having been a test run, as no plane or payload was discovered in a sweep of the jail. In any event, ITRR analysts believe hostile ideological adversaries, some of whom may also be imprisoned in the UK jail in question, are studying the event closely for operational intelligence.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

13. Hyderabad Rioting and the Global Jihad

There have been three days of inter-ethnic and religious rioting in the Indian city of Hyderabad (in Andhra Pradesh state). In the street clashes, vandalism and arson perpetrated alternately by Hindu and Muslim mobs one person has been killed and dozens injured.

A curfew has been imposed on the city since 29 March 2010 and security service officers are out in force.

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

In PAIB no. 44, ITRR noted that the head of the jihadist Lashkar-e-Taiba organization, Haafiz Saeed, on 5 February 2010 called for jihad and the "liberation" of the city of Hyderabad as part of his agenda.

At this time, Hyderabad should be considered temporarily off-limits for Western travelers. As recommended in several past PAIB editions, researchers and faculty at New Delhi's University of Pennsylvania Institute for the Advanced Study of India (UPIASI), as well as business travelers and tourists from Pennsylvania, should be advised of the ongoing high risk of jihadist attack on public venues generally, and at tourist sites or other Western-identified venues.

In addition, Indian targets outside the subcontinent may be singled out by elements sympathetic to the Indian jihad. There is a limited risk of jihadist lone-wolf targeting of Indian assets in Pennsylvania, such as Hindu and Sikh temples, or activities of the Indian Cultural Association of Pennsylvania (ICAP).

No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES
ENERGY
HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS
BANKING AND FINANCE
WATER
CHEMICAL
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
DAMS
NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS, AND WASTE
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
COMMUNICATIONS
POSTAL AND SHIPPING

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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.

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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