

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #69

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

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ONGOING RESEARCH

1. Tax Day Tea Party Events and Anarchist Opposition

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 response, an anarchist communication includes a call to "crash the tea parties" slated for various locations around the country. The call quickly generated a buzz among both anarchist and Tea Party supporters, with elements of both groups seemingly looking forward to the impending confrontations. Several of these Tea Party events are in Pennsylvania. ITRR is monitoring the run-up to the events for additional local times and locations. (PAIB nos. 61, 65 and 67)

2. Militarized Ant-Government Movement Seeing Increased Activity

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, as well as the police, the military and other federal agencies. The group appears to have a Pennsylvania chapter. Several events of motivational significance to anti-government or racist organizations took place or will take place in April: the recent arrests of nine members of the radical Christian fundamentalist Hutaree militia, who were allegedly planning terrorist attacks; the decision of the EPA to limit mining operations in West Virginia; a 19 April Second Amendment March/Rally in Washington, DC, as well as related events across the nation (Pennsylvania's Fifth Annual Right to Keep and Bear Arms Rally is to take place at the capitol building in Harrisburg on 27 April). In addition, historical events of significance at this time include: 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. (PAIB nos. 63, 65 and 68)

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 setting aside 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: May is 'Month of Anarchy'

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 stepping up 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. Environmental 'Direct Action' and the Drift Toward Eco-Terror

Eco-extremist and anti-capitalist communications of 8 January 2010 and thereafter include explicit calls for sabotage of major facilities and murder. In addition, the Earth First! movement has also taken a turn to advocating more aggressive civil disobedience and sabotage. Anti-coal mining activists and related organizations have recently been increasing training and actions targeting the coal industry and related facilities. ITRR analysts identified several specific assets and industries that may be targets for eco-activist "direct action", or worse, 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, 61 and 68)

7. 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. (PAIB nos. 50 and 56)

8. Ongoing Jihadist Campaign in Russia

The recent double bombing on Moscow's massive subway system, which killed over 40 people, as well as several subsequent bombing attacks in Russia's Caucasus regions, are part of an ongoing escalation in jihadist terrorism in the Russian arena (discussed in multiple ITRR alerts since late last year). At this time, ITRR analysts consider the risk of follow-on jihadist terror attacks to be severe. 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. (PAIB nos. 16, 30, 40, 48, 65 and 66)

9. The 'Anticapitalathon Games'

The Anticapitalathon Games, organized by an "anarchist collective", are slated for 23-25 April 2010, coinciding with the annual spring meetings of both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank (24-25 April 2010) in the US capital. ITRR analysts believe the anarchist organizers appear to be planning mass theft, trespassing, targeted (as well as random) vandalism, and general confrontational rioting. A training seminar is to be held at the West Chester University Women's Center on 11 April 2010. While anarchist violence at the training seminar is not likely, ITRR analysts are monitoring for ways in which the lessons learned from the training (and the subsequent DC events) will find their way back to future Pennsylvania anarchist activities. (PAIB no. 68)

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

10. Army Experience Center Protest at Franklin Mills Mall

Anti-military protesters are planning a protest rally, which they are calling a "vigil", against the Army Experience Center (AEC) at Franklin Mills Mall. The event, calling to shut down the AEC, is slated for 17 April 2010 at the corner of Knights and Woodhaven Rds.

The 17 April protest is part of a campaign involving monthly demonstrations outside the AEC and, sometimes, inside the mall.

***** ANALYSIS*****

T/I/W Rating: LOW

In the past (as cited in PAIB no. 12), the anti-AEC organizers have called on demonstrators to act peacefully and in accordance with the law. They have explicitly stated that they do not want displays of civil disobedience, nor do they want anyone engaging in activities that result in arrests. However, it is worth noting that September 2009 protests against the same site were marked by disorderly conduct and several arrests.

ITRR analysts expect the above-mentioned April event to be non-violent, although ITRR has no current information regarding necessary police permits. Nonetheless, it appears that law enforcement personnel will primarily be called upon to provide crowd control. As in other protests of this nature, there remains a chance that radical elements will be inspired to take "direct action", which can include civil disobedience, vandalism or more vigorous protesting. Actions may include street blockades and attempts to spread the protest beyond cordoned areas assigned by law enforcement.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

11. Threats from the 'Greater Syria' Branch of Al-Qaeda

ITRR researchers have identified recent jihadist communications containing the specific threat to commit kidnappings and other terror acts in the area regionally known as Al-Sham ("Greater Syria" - Lebanon, Israel, parts of Jordan and the Palestinian Authority).

A recent interview of the field commander for Al-Qaeda in the Land of Al-Sham (AQAS) has recently been published for internal jihadist consumption. The commander, Saleh Al-Qaraui, is responsible for the Abdullah Azzam Battalion.

Qaraui did not deny or confirm the intent to attack American interests in Jordan. However, jihadist communications subsequent to the interview added that very soon there will be such attacks on hotels in Amman, Jordan.

Additionally, jihadist understanding of Qaraui's statements regarding missiles in Lebanon is that more "high quality" missile attacks will be coming from Lebanon into Israel. The AQAS leader added that the Ziad Al-Jarrah battalion (also under his command) previously fired from southern

Lebanon into Israel to prove that "neither the Hizbullah, nor UNIFIL, nor the Lebanese military, nor the Jews will be safe as long as our families in Palestine do not live in security." A similar phrase has been used by Osama Bin-Laden in past Al-Qaeda communications.

*******ANALYSIS*******

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE

ITRR analysts are treating the aforementioned AQAS communication, coupled with previous communications from Osama Bin-Laden and other jihadists, as an indicator of Al-Qaeda's intent to conduct operations in the Israel and Jordan sector in the near future.

In a fairly explicit communication from 2 February 2010 (cited in PAIB no. 42), ostensibly taunting Jordanian intelligence services, a jihadist discusses bombing tactics and strategies that he implies are already in motion. Alluding to deadly bombings in Amman in 2005, the communication said, "Do not believe an attack in a hotel is our upper limit." The communication added that "there are many fronts [in the global jihad] and all these fronts want to free Jerusalem, and the easiest and most appropriate way is through Jordan." Encircling Israel from the "front-line states" has been a noted Al-Qaeda tactic for several years, according to ITRR.

In PAIB no.64, ITRR researchers noted that the head of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan had called for jihad against Jewish assets and Israeli embassies in Arab and Muslim countries in March. In the same PAIB edition, ITRR analysts looked at a jihadist communication indicating an imminent terrorist attack targeting Tel Aviv. A January 2010 attack against Israel's embassy staff in Jordan was conducted with IEDs; similar tactics could be used against other Western targets in the region, including tourists moving between the two countries.

In light of the foregoing, ITRR analysts recommend that Pennsylvanian students, tourists and business travelers be made aware of the heightened level of risk in Jordan. Specifically of note is that University of Pennsylvania students on AMIDEAST programs at Qasid Institute in Amman initially stay in a hotel in the city during orientation week. ITRR analysts reiterate that recent acts of terror targeting civilians have struck hotels and other venues used by Westerners.

Pennsylvania students, researchers and faculty at the many overseas programs in Israel (such as those of Temple University, Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania, and various Jewish and Christian religious seminaries), as well as business travelers in the country, should be advised of the apparent increase in jihadist targeting of the country at this time. Visitors are advised to adhere to guidance provided by local security forces and to increase awareness of cross-border tension on Israel's northern front.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

12. Ratcheting Up the Incitement Over Chinese Occupation of Turkestan

As discussed by ITRR analysts in recent PAIB editions, jihadist communications regarding China and its effort to impose its will on the majority-Muslim Uighur regions of its sprawling lands have been increasing in frequency and in inciting content in recent months. The most recent example includes a jihadist discussion of reports from Xinjiang province (East Turkestan) claiming that "China sent her army troops to East Turkestan to impose her control. The Chinese

soldiers occupied mosques in East Turkestan and prevented people from saying their prayers there."

A further jihadist communication regarding the above events in Xinjiang said, "Have you given up on the jihad? Allah will help our brothers in Turkestan and all the Muslims. Allah will show us the way of revenge on those who attacked our religion."

*****ANALYSIS*****

T//W Rating: MODERATE

In PAIB no. 55, ITRR researchers cited an Arabic language call to target personnel and assets of the People's Republic of China (PRC) within the Chinese state and globally. In PAIB no. 68, ITRR noted a new statement issued by the jihadist Turkestan Islamic Party (TIP) reiterating its goals of Islamic supremacy through armed jihad.

In light of the continued ratcheting up of incitement over China's actions in Xinjiang province, ITRR analysts reiterate the assessment that an increased risk level exists in the Turkestan area, in central Chinese cities, and in the vicinity of Chinese assets abroad (as well as for cultural institutions deemed "secular" by the Turkestan Islamic Party).

PRC targets have already been hit in recent years both in Xinjiang, and in the Arab countries of the Middle East and North Africa. Previous attacks have ranged from bombings to ambushes with small-arms fire aimed at Chinese contract workers abroad. Organizations in close proximity to high-profile Chinese assets or groups should take note of increased pressure to target these assets by lone-wolf or small unit terror organizations.

Students from Pennsylvania schools (Clarion University, East Stroudsburg, Indiana University, Mansfield University, and Westminster College) taking part in International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP) in China, Indiana University of Pennsylvania exchange students in China, as well as University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine exchange students at China's Fourth Military Medical University College of Stomatology, should be made aware of the specific regional risks in western China.

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
EMERGENCY SERVICES
NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS, AND WASTE
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
COMMUNICATIONS
POSTAL AND SHIPPING
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

Compiled by NR

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@itrintel.org.

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