

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #87

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

19 MAY 2010

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. 'Gay Pride' Events and Anti-Gay Militia Chatter

ITRR researchers have recently noted indications of focused anti-gay chatter among right-wing militia supporters. Upcoming "gay pride" events worldwide may serve as trigger events for such radicals with an anti-gay agenda. The major Pennsylvania events are: the 5 June 2010 Dyke and Trans March in Pittsburgh; the 12 June 2010 Pride in the Street outdoor party in Pittsburgh; the 13 June 2010 Pittsburgh Gay Pride Awareness March and concluding festival; and the 13 June 2010 LGBT Pride Parade and Festival in Philadelphia. Anti-gay far-right militia communications are currently under review by ITRR domestic terrorism analysts.

2. New Pennsylvania-Based Earth First! Network Forming

Supporters of the radical environmentalist and anti-capitalist organization Earth First! are forming a new network in the upstate New York-Pennsylvania region. The Earth First! movement has taken a turn to advocating more aggressive civil disobedience and sabotage. ITRR analysts recommend that security personnel responsible for mass transit, telecommunications, ports, fuel stations, coal plants, and other facilities that have been targeted by environmentalist protests in the past take immediate action to heighten situational awareness. A high priority target for environmental activists in the New York-Pennsylvania region is the Marcellus Shale area gas drilling project. (PAIB nos. 68 and 86)

3. Pittsburgh to Host World Environment Day

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will be holding World Environment Day events in Pittsburgh on 5 June 2010. It will be the culmination of nearly two months of mainstream global environmental awareness activities. Parallel World Environment Day gatherings are to be held in six other cities, one in each continent. ITRR researchers note that past World Environment Days have sometimes been met with marches and protests in various locations around the world. As recent communications among eco-terror sympathizers have targeted corporate and state entities that are ostensibly involved in environmental conservation activities, ITRR analysts are monitoring for Pittsburgh targeting among such adversarial elements. Of specific note is the involvement of the Bayer Corporation's US offices, based in Pittsburgh, in the World Environment Day planning. Bayer has also been the target of eco-activist protests in the past.

4. Tactics: UK White Supremacists Planned Ricin Attack

Two White supremacists in the UK were recently arrested for apparently planning to murder Jews and Muslims using ricin, pipe bombs and other methods gleaned from anarchist and far-right online manuals. As the plotters clearly shared information with hundreds of others sympathetic to White supremacist ideology, through their international Aryan Strike Force organization and website, ITRR analysts are monitoring relevant communications for indications of similar lone-wolf White supremacist terror planning in North America. Aryan Strike Force has close links to the Racial Volunteer Force (RVF), which is itself a spin-off of Combat 18 and Blood and Honour, which has North American chapters and has organized prison gangs. (PAIB no. 83)

5. Taliban Threat to Belgium Over 'Burka Law'

On 29 April 2010 Belgian lawmakers voted overwhelmingly to ban the wearing of the Islamic *burka* (full-body covering) in public. The law, if it now passes the upper legislature, will become the first across-the-board ban of its kind in Europe. Subsequent Taliban communications apparently included threats directed at the Belgian people over the planned ban. More generally, ITRR analysts note an increased risk of terrorist attack in Belgium and possibly against Belgian assets elsewhere. Potential targets were identified as including governmental, judicial and public facilities. In November 2009 jihadist communications focused on Brussels specifically.

Exchange students and faculty from Pennsylvania universities in Belgium should maintain heightened situational awareness. In Pennsylvania, Belgian assets include the honorary consul, Mrs. Anne Billiet Lackner at the law offices of The Lackner Group, Inc. (700 North Bell Avenue, Suite 290) in Pittsburgh. (PAIB nos. 14, 57 and 83)

6. UK Post-Election: Sensitive Time Period

The recent elections in the United Kingdom, which gave the Conservative Party the lead, constitute a potential trigger for jihadist terror attacks, as a form of collective punishment directed at the population. Prior jihadist communications intercepted by ITRR referring specifically to the United Kingdom included the intent to target UK transportation systems. Generally, there has been a stepped-up tempo of jihadist threats against British nationals and assets in the UK and worldwide in recent months.

ITRR analysts recommend a heightened period of alert in the United Kingdom at this time until the new government is settled into parliament. In Pennsylvania, the British-American Business Council (BABC) has chapter offices in Philadelphia (200 S. Broad St.) and Pittsburgh (425 Sixth Ave.) which may be targeted for protest or more destructive action. (PAIB nos. 53 and 82)

7. Anarchists Training for G8/G20: May Remains the '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 June. Similarly, the Northeast Anarchist Network (NEAN) is stepping up its activities (legal and illegal) in the northeastern United States through May 2010 (billed as a "Month of Anarchy").

Representatives of some anarchist groups will be meeting in Toronto on 15 May 2010 to build strategies for planned disruptions of the multinational meetings. The level of anarchist logistical, strategic and tactical planning indicates that businesses and other organizations intending to be in Toronto during the G8/G20 talks should prepare for unanticipated modifications to their plans. ITRR researchers are currently monitoring the anarchist networks for targeting indicators in Pennsylvania. (PAIB nos. 50, 59 and 73)

8. Militarized Anti-Government Movements Seeing Increased Activity

ITRR researchers are monitoring anti-government militia organizations, especially the Rogue Nation Eternal Militia (RNEM), also linked with anarchist libertarian elements. RNEM and others have been promoting armed, dispersed and "leaderless resistance" against what they define 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 RNEM group appears to have a Pennsylvania chapter. (PAIB nos. 63, 65, 68 and 73)

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

9. Caucasus Jihad Goes Global

Turkish security forces claim to have disrupted a plot by Chechen jihadists to assassinate Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and members of his entourage during his visit to Turkey last week. However, Turkish sources said, the terrorists themselves were not caught and are believed to still be in Istanbul or Ankara.

Media reports of the intercept indicated that several terrorists from Chechnya had entered Turkey ahead of Medvedev's arrival using false passports. Security was subsequently enhanced in Ankara, with unspecified measures designed to foil the attack.

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

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

The above-mentioned terrorist plot, ITRR analysts note, indicates the increased capability and new willingness among Caucasus-based jihadists to operate outside the Russian theater. As of this writing, however, the Caucasus jihadists remain focused on attacking Russian assets and personnel. Their part in other active fronts of the larger international jihad remains to be seen.

Turkey

ITRR analysts explain that a significant risk indicator for Turkey at this time in the wake of the above-mentioned plot is that the would-be terrorists are apparently still at large. This plainly means that they can yet launch attacks on other high-profile Russian assets in Turkey. Potential targets include the Russian embassy, its consulates, or any other visiting Russian VIPs in Turkey (academic, political, cultural, military, etc.).

Russia

The attempted attack in Turkey was a notable evolution of the ongoing escalation in jihadist terrorism in the Russian arena since late last year. It may also have been an attempt to carry out a "revenge" assassination of a Russian leader following Russia's killing of jihadist leader Mahomed Hardanov in Ingushetia last month. This followed ongoing threats by the Islamic Emirate of the Caucasus (IEC) that more attacks will be perpetrated in the heart of Russia.

ITRR analysts reiterate that the risk of follow-on jihadist terror attacks in Russia is severe at this time, most especially . (See PAIB nos. 16, 30, 40, 48, 65, 66 and 86 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.

Pennsylvania

As shown by the apparently disrupted Chechen plot in Turkey, Caucasus terrorists are prepared to take action abroad. While there are, as yet, no indications of IEC or other Caucasus terrorist capability in North America, the increasing globalization of Al-Qaeda 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.

In Pennsylvania, the following events and assets may draw such adversarial attention:

- The Second Annual Troika Russian Festival, scheduled for 28-30 May 2010. The festival is to be held at the Church of the Nativity Community Center (109 German St.) in Erie starting at noon on each of the three specified days.
- The Russian-Americans United Arts Council, while little known in the general community, may be seen by Russian-speakers in the Pennsylvania region as a local outpost of Russian society. It is officially located at 110 W. Byberry Rd. in Philadelphia, although it does not appear to be an identifiable center.
- The Mid-Atlantic-Russia Business Council is located at 1760 Market St., a high-rise office building in Philadelphia.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

10. State Capitol Taxpayers' Protest

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 2nd Annual State Capitol Taxpayers' Protest in Harrisburg on 8 June 2010.

The focus of the protest is, "Let them know that YOU, their employer, will no longer stand for excessive taxes and irresponsible spending. Join us in the fight for our economic freedom!" The protesters are encouraged to, "Tell them that they need to spend responsibly by reducing the tax burden for Pennsylvania taxpayers and that we want to keep more of OUR hard-earned money!"

Protesters are encouraged to appear at 9:00 AM at the entrances of the "Capitol Building off Third Street or at the back door off Commonwealth Avenue." Once there, the protesters are encouraged to "go to your respective state representative or senator's office and sit in their chairs and on their floor, wherever you can find room. If your legislator's office is filled, find another's office that isn't!" Additionally, if the offices are too filled with protesters, they are encouraged to go to the "Main Capitol Rotunda near the front entrance and the Rotunda in the East Wing. Find a bench or a step and stay the full working day."

***** ANALYSIS *****

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE

ITRR analysts note that the tone of the publicity inviting protesters to join in the tax payer rally is aggressive and strident – "Prepare to stay the full working day to show YOUR legislator that as

your public servant they WORK FOR YOU." Law enforcement personnel should be prepared to deal with crowd control issues inside the Pennsylvania state capitol.

No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:

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

Compiled by NR

THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
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.

***Working with organizations that refuse to surrender their
domestic or international operations to terrorism***

Ensure that you always receive the latest information from The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response. Add the e-mail address, "info@itrintel.org" to your personal address book.

This Intelligence report includes information from open and closed intelligence sources. Not all information is able to be verified; however, the TAM-C is actively evaluating the reporting to establish its accuracy and to determine if it represents a possible link to terrorism. If recipients have any additional or clarifying information, please contact the Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C) at +1.215.922.1080.

Actionable Intelligence Weekly Briefing® A general overview of actionable intelligence (upcoming events) used by directors of security and law enforcement managers to pre-plan their future operations. The Briefing is dispatched on Monday of each week by 1100 GMT to enable early planning of the upcoming weeks.

Threat and Hazard Monitoring (THM) A custom service meeting the needs for each client. With the assistance of our international analysts, this service identifies specific threats, hazards, vulnerabilities, and assets our team of native language speakers researchers and ground resources, are to monitor and forward on to the client.

For additional information regarding the Center's services or specialized customized research and analysis programs, feel free to contact us at: info@itrintel.org