

# PENNSYLVANIA INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN No. 137

**13 September 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.*

*Successful intelligence analysis and sharing programs are not the result of top-down processes but rather the collective efforts of all stakeholders concerned. The Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security urges all recipients – whether public or private sector - to provide information that might assist in the process to [paintel@itrrintel.org](mailto:paintel@itrrintel.org).*

## POTENTIALLY-IMPACTED MUNICIPALITIES & SECTORS

Municipality
Damascus Township (Wayne County) Forest City Borough (Susquehanna County) Harrisburg (Dauphin County) Philadelphia Pittsburgh (Allegheny) Plymouth Meeting (Plymouth & Whitemarsh Townships (Montgomery County) Upper St. Clair Township (Allegheny County)
Sector
Commercial Nuclear Reactors, Materials & Waste Energy Government Facilities <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Pursuant to the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, Homeland Security Act of 2002, Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan of 2009, critical infrastructure is defined as “systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.” Pennsylvania applies the same logic and intent to define Commonwealth, county & municipality critical infrastructures and key resources.

## KEY DATE REMINDERS

- **Current-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:
  - Yom Kippur - **17-18 September**
  - Sukkot - **22-24 September**
  - Simchat Torah - **29 September-1 October 2010**
- **Current-13 September 2010:** ANSWER Coalition, the National Committee to Free the Five and other affinity groups are taking part in what they have called "International Days of Action to Free the Cuban Five." A **Philadelphia** event is slated for **13 September** across from City Hall. Activists will be handing out leaflets and collecting signatures.<sup>2</sup>
- **13 September 2010:** Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair will be in **Philadelphia** to receive the 2010 Liberty Medal from former President Bill Clinton. Dissemination of information on the event by anti-war groups suggests that protesters will be present at the ceremony. Plans to televise and webcast the event adds motivation for protests.
- **13 September 2010:** Animal welfare rally at the State Capitol Building in **Harrisburg**. See details herein.
- **13-15 September 2010:** The opening days of the trial of a well-known environmental activist, Tim DeChristopher, are expected to draw protesters to Salt Lake City, Utah, from across the US. Solidarity rallies are expected elsewhere; however, as of this writing, there is no specific information regarding planned protest actions in Pennsylvania.
- **13 September-4 October 2010:** The following meetings have been designated for attendance by anti-Marcellus Shale Formation natural gas drilling activists:
  - **13 September** - a hearing on Marcellus Shale Formation drilling, **Pittsburgh** City Council chambers (414 Grant St.)
  - **20 September** - a hearing in **Damascus Township (Wayne County)** on a proposed amendment to zoning regulations regarding drilling
  - **21 September** - US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representatives meet at the Omni Hotel in **Pittsburgh** to discuss coal ash

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.answercoalition.org/national/index.html>

regulations.

- **21 September** – a meeting of the state legislature in **Harrisburg**
  - **23 September** – a public meeting on natural gas drilling with the Executive Director of the Delaware River Basin Commission at the **Forest City Borough High School Auditorium (Susquehanna County)**
  - **28 September** - a hearing at the **Philadelphia** City Council chambers on the environmental and economic impacts of Marcellus Shale Formation drilling
  - **4 October** - a hearing on a proposed amendment to the township zoning ordinance to regulate oil and gas drilling operations in **Upper St. Clair Township (Allegheny County)**
- **15 September 2010:** Jobs with Justice holding Jobs Emergency Day of Action. As part of what is being billed as "Jobs Emergency Day of Action" on 15 September 2010, the **Philadelphia** branch of Jobs with Justice (JwJ) is planning a protest at the offices of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. Isolated cases of more vigorous protest action remains a possibility in light of JwJ's declared support for "strategic militant action."
- **16-19 September 2010:** Anti-war groups across the US will be holding decentralized rallies in support of Army Private First Class Bradley Manning, the soldier who leaked military documents to Wikileaks. Researchers are monitoring for planned Pennsylvania events.
- **17-19 September 2010:** Scheduled Pittsburgh Pirates-Arizona Diamondbacks baseball games in PNC Park, **Pittsburgh**. Opponents of the controversial Arizona immigration legislation SB 1070 are to protest at or near Pittsburgh's Roberto Clemente (Sixth Street) Bridge. A disruption of the games may also be attempted.
- **17-19 September 2010:** Animal ACTivists of Philly is planning a protest against the Lulu Shrine Rodeo in the **Village of Plymouth Meeting (Montgomery County)**.<sup>3</sup> "This is the worst of the worst," the activist material declares.
- **20 - 26 September 2010:** Animal rights radicals of **STOP HUNTINGDON ANIMAL CRUELTY (SHAC)** are planning a "Financial Focus' Week of Action" against companies providing financing for Huntingdon Life Science's operations.<sup>4</sup> Companies having any business links whatsoever with HLS and their executives have been targeted by activists for harassment, threats, arson, vandalism and, sometimes, assault. See PIB No. 136 for a list of assets in Pennsylvania identified as possible targets of current anti-HLS actions.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.meetup.com/Animal-Activists-of-Philly/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.shac.net/>

## SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

### Government Facilities

#### 1. **Animal Welfare Activists Gathering in Harrisburg**

Advocates of more aggressive animal welfare legislation are gathering today (13 September 2010) on the capitol steps in **Harrisburg**. The rally, on the 3rd St. steps, is to take place from 11:00 to 13:00.

The date of the rally was chosen to meet legislators returning from their summer break. The rally is "our chance to make sure legislators hear us: pass meaningful animal welfare legislation," according to Helen Ebersole, president and co-founder of United Against Puppy Mills, one of several groups organizing the rally.<sup>5</sup>

Many protesters will have "their canine companions" along with them.

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

Law enforcement duties during the above-mentioned protest will primarily be limited to crowd and access control. Crowd control measures should take into account the presence of dogs and other animals among the protesters. It is unknown whether the necessary demonstration permits have been obtained.

#### 2. **Animal Rights Activists to Target Italian Consulates**

Animal rights activists will be targeting Italian embassies and consulates globally on 23 September 2010 as part of a protest against the Green Hill company. Green Hill supplies research animals to Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), Novartis, Wyeth, Bayer and Italian laboratories.

The "global day of action" has been announced and promoted in animal rights and environmentalist forums. "On Thursday 23rd September please show solidarity and demonstrate or deliver a letter to your nearest Italian embassy or consulate," the activists advise.

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

The "day of action" targeting Italian diplomatic facilities falls during the week of action against the company providing financing for HLS's operations, as announced by **STOP HUNTINGDON ANIMAL CRUELTY (SHAC)** (PIB No. 136). The "Financial Focus' Week of Action" is 20 - 26 September 2010.

Anti-HLS actions have included acts of harassment, threats, arson, vandalism and, sometimes, assault against corporate employees, executives and institutions. In past years, animal rights activists in Pennsylvania have advocated "[taking] it to the homes of executives of some of HLS's top customers."

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.unitedagainstpupmills.org/>

SHAC supporters and other animal rights radicals are likely to see the targeting of Italian facilities as a natural extension of their concurrent activism. In Pennsylvania, protests against Green Hill may focus on the Italian consulate in **Philadelphia** (1026 Public Ledger Building, 100 South 6th St.). Law enforcement personnel are advised that SHAC and other animal rights extremists may attempt direct actions, including trespass, blockading the consulate building, or acts of vandalism.

### ***Commercial Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste***

#### **3. *International Radioactive Waste Action Day***

29 September 2010 has been declared International Radioactive Waste Action Day by several anti-nuclear environmentalist groups. They are calling for a "teach-in" or any other "action raising awareness of your community's radioactive waste issues in COORDINATION with others nationwide and worldwide!"

The event promotional material says: "STOP MAKING IT! DON'T REPROCESS IT! DON'T DUMP IT ON ANYONE! HARDEN ON-SITE-STORAGE TO MAKE IT SAFER AND MORE SECURE WHERE IT IS! STOP TARGETING NATIVE / PERMANENT PEOPLE / ABORIGINAL LAND!!!"

Suggested "actions" include:

- "community-based teach-ins / College / University involvement";
- "People's Hearings or 'town hall meeting'";
- "travel to DC to participate" in lobbying;
- lobbying within one's district;
- meetings with state-level political leaders;
- "Non-Violent Direct Action as appropriate";
- "Street Theater";
- Demonstrations;
- "an info table at another event – or in a public place";
- "an art event, photo exhibit, poetry reading or concert";
- "a vigil";
- "host a speaker or an author; screen a film"; and
- "a letter-writing or call-in party."

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

While most recent anti-nuclear events in Pennsylvania have been non-confrontational, recent environmentalist communications have seen a sharp increase in rhetoric and strong advocacy of civil disobedience. In Europe, recent anti-nuclear direct actions have included trespassing and vandalism. Individuals or small cells may decide to take "direct action," such as civil disobedience, against nuclear facilities on or around the target dates mentioned above. Such action can include anything from protests without proper permits to property damage and graffiti at nuclear facilities.

In Pennsylvania, nuclear facilities may be targeted for protests or other direct actions. Additionally, environmental activists have repeatedly cited Pennsylvania as a leader in nuclear waste production (although the state does not have a disposal site), and nuclear waste through-shipments (See also PIB Nos. 44, 50 & 57).

### ***Government Facilities***

#### **4. *Anarchists May Again Take Advantage of Greek Unrest***

The austerity measures of Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou have sparked demonstrations involving an estimated 20,000 people. Trade unions have pledged that Greece is facing "unprecedented" protests and strike actions. There were also open-source reports that several thousand anarchists were gathering to take advantage of the unrest.

Greece has already seen large-scale demonstrations and rioting in reaction to previous economic belt-tightening. In the past, such demonstrations were quickly co-opted by anarchist and other anti-capitalist movements, leading to arson, vandalism and acts of terrorism.

In PIB Nos. 59 & 62, analysts identified the likelihood of escalating action by anarchist elements in Greece. In May, several improvised, explosive devices (IED) were detonated in two separate Greek cities (PAIB No. 86).

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

In the past several months, attacks by what appears to be anarchist and anti-authoritarian elements have increased and escalated to include arson and bombings. Analysts reiterate that the indicators identified above point to a renewed risk of increasingly violent anarchist activity in Greece.

While Greek anarchist violence has focused primarily, although not exclusively, on law enforcement and multinational business interests, bystander civilians have also been killed in past attacks. Tactics used by the anti-authoritarian terrorists have included instigated rioting, shooting, firebombs, arson and other sabotage.

As noted in previous PIB, widespread Greek anarchist rioting and attacks have gained admiration among anarchists worldwide. Affinity group violence in the US and Europe in reaction to overseas events is also a possibility, as previously mentioned by analysts.

Researchers are currently monitoring the anarchist networks for more localized targeting indicators.



## 5. **Warning of Planned Irish Republican Terrorism**

Patrick Mercer, former chairman of the House of Commons subcommittee on counterterrorism, has said that the **REAL IRA (RIRA)**,<sup>6</sup> the **CONTINUITY IRA (CIRA)**<sup>7</sup> and the "**WARRIORS OF IRELAND**" are planning attacks in the UK, including the targeting of the Conservative Party conference in Birmingham on 3-6 October 2010.

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

In PAIB No. 52, researchers noted that there had been a notable increase in terrorist actions by Irish republican factions since late last year. In September 2009, as noted in reports at the time, cells of armed thugs - purportedly affiliated with republican dissident terror groups such as the RIRA or CIRA - were intensely attempting to revive sectarian violence in Northern Ireland.

The dissident republican groups are primarily targeting law enforcement; however, last year saw the targeting of civilian assets such as Orange Halls and GAA (Gaelic soccer) clubs in North Antrim, churches and Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) halls. February 2010 and June 2010 saw peaks in increasing attempts to perpetrate large-scale attacks. A number of police stations, police officers, and patrol cars have been targeted in serious terrorist bombings in recent months (See PIB Nos. 101 and 105 for details).

General situational awareness is called for among students and faculty associated with overseas exchange educational programs in Northern Ireland, such as those of **Millersville University** and the **Pennsylvania College of Technology**. Attacks in the heartland of the United Kingdom, as suggested by the aforementioned British official, would represent a dramatic leap in the recent escalation. Researchers are monitoring for further indications that republican violence may cross into England.

## 6. **Jihadist 'Work Accident' in Denmark**

On 10 September 2010, Danish police arrested an individual in the center of Copenhagen on suspicion of involvement in a minor explosion in the restroom of the Hotel Jorgensen, on Israel Square.

Researchers have obtained information indicating that the suspect was attempting to construct an IED when some of the components detonated. The IED may have been intended for use in a suicide bombing. Analysts note that the Hotel Jørgensen is in close proximity to the Copenhagen central train station.

Responses to the failed bombing were quick to come among jihadist communications. They said the attack was in retaliation for the desecration of the Islamic prophet Muhammad by Danish media. There were also calls for a series of attacks in Denmark, not an individual attack in Copenhagen alone. Researchers identified additional targeting guidance shared among the jihadists.

<sup>6</sup> <http://irelandsown.net/RIRA.html>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.fas.org/irp/world/para/cira.htm>

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

As noted in PIB No. 128, recent jihadist communications focused on the impending publication of a book by a Danish cartoonist (Kurt Westergaard) who drew a caricature of the Islamic prophet Muhammad. One of the intercepted responses was quite explicit in terms of tactics and strategy to "avenge" the affront to Muhammad:

"Lone-wolf terror is the way. Jump [into the fray] for Islam. Everyone on his own target, frighten the enemy of Allah and attack their interests, his economy and his people. Be Nidal Hassan [the Ft. Hood shooter], Omar Al-Farouk [the Delta Christmas Day bomber], Abdallah Asiri [who tried to assassinate a Saudi Arabian prince], Faisal Shahzad [the Times Square bomber]."

As noted in PIB No. 99, a recent jihadist communication declared, "I ask great Allah to grant me martyrdom at the embassy of Denmark." Analysts have previously identified similar communications - regarding "punishing" Denmark for its role in the publication of Muhammad cartoons - coming from locations as geographically separate as Pakistan and the Arabian Peninsula.

Islamists have also not been reticent to physically target those individuals deemed to have offended Muslim beliefs. Lone-wolf actions may be attempted at locations believed to be connected to individuals or organizations Islamists decide have denigrated Islam.

Students and faculty attending overseas educational exchange programs at Danish educational facilities such as those sponsored by **Indiana University of Pennsylvania**, **Clarion University of Pennsylvania**, **East Stroudsburg**, **Mansfield University** and **Westminster College** should be made aware of the apparent immediate jihadist intention to strike Denmark. In addition, situational awareness is important at or in proximity to Danish or Danish-identified assets worldwide. Analysts note that lone-wolf or small cell actions are the most likely form of terrorist action, although initially peaceful protests may also be sparked into mob violence.

In addition, researchers reiterate that recent adversarial communications have encouraged lone-wolf terrorism against CONUS and European countries including Spain, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Switzerland, as well as Denmark. Students, researchers, business travelers and tourists are advised to increase situational awareness in the named states.

**There are no emerging Indicators, Threats and/or Warnings at this time for the following sectors:**

**AGRICULTURE AND FOOD**  
**BANKING AND FINANCE**



CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES  
COMMERCIAL FACILITIES  
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING  
DAMS  
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE  
EMERGENCY SERVICES  
GOVERNMENT FACILITIES<sup>8</sup>  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS  
POSTAL AND SHIPPING  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS  
WATER

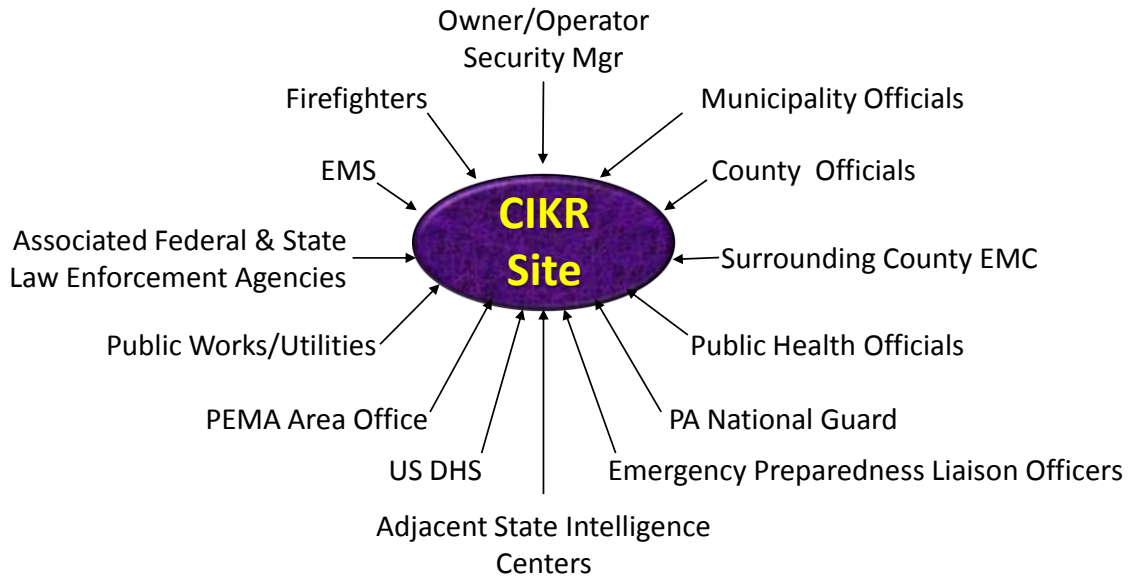
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<sup>8</sup> Educational Facilities Sub-Sector: Security directors, students and faculty of all Pennsylvania-based colleges and universities participating in educational exchange programs abroad need to remain cognizant of emerging, country-specific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

## Goal: Situational Awareness Among All Stakeholders

- The Information-Sharing Community -



THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	DESCRIPTION
<b>LOW (Level 4)</b>	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.
<b>MODERATE (Level 3)</b>	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.
<b>SEVERE (Level 2)</b>	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.
<b>CRITICAL (Level 1)</b>	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.*

*The ITRR, a commercial information research and analysis organization, uses open-source, human and closed-source intelligence resources to derive patterns, trends, indicators, assessments and time-sensitive products. The 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.*

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*The quality of the information provided relies on two-way communications. We invite you to advise the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security when the information in this bulletin is helpful and, more importantly, when incidents happen in your municipality or sector that draw a parallel with the intelligence reported herein.*

