

PENNSYLVANIA INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #134

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

6 SEPTEMBER 2010

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ACTIONABLE DATE REMINDERS

- **Current-12 September 2010:** The lunar month of Ramadan is a period of fasting and reflecting for Muslims. During Ramadan, devout Muslims refrain from eating during daylight hours, generally concluding each day with a meal known as Iftar. Jihadists consider it an auspicious period for attacks in the name of Islam. Ramadan is followed by a three-day festival known as Eid Al-Fitr, starting on **10 September 2010**.
- **Current-10 September 2010:** Greek anarchists are holding a "Festival of Direct Democracy" in Thessaloniki. Pennsylvania students and faculty participating in programs in Greece should be made aware of the increased risk of anarchist violence in the country. In Pennsylvania, disorders in support of the Greek anarchists are possible.
- **7 September-4 October 2010:** The following meetings have been singled out for attendance by anti-drilling activists: **7 September -**

a public hearing (to be addressed by Gov. Rendell) on gas drilling at the Washington County Court House (see herein below for more details); **8 September** - a public hearing (reportedly to be attended by Gov. Rendell) on gas drilling at the Georgetown Centre in Pittsburgh; **13 September** - a hearing on Marcellus Shale drilling in the Pittsburgh City Council chambers (414 Grant St.); **20 September** - a hearing in Damascus (Wayne County) on a proposed amendment to zoning regulations regarding drilling; **21 September** - EPA representatives meet at the Omni Hotel in Pittsburgh to discuss coal ash regulations; and **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).

- **8 September-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: Rosh HaShanah - **8-10 September**; Yom Kippur - **17-18 September**; Sukkot - **22-24 September**; Simchat Torah - **29 September-1 October 2010**.
- **9-13 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.
- **10-11 September 2010:** The following meeting has been singled out for attendance by anti-drilling activists: Pennsylvania Forestry Association meeting to discuss the Marcellus Shale. The meeting is part of the annual Association meeting, set to take place at the Genetti Hotel in Williamsport (Lycoming County).
- **11 September 2010:** Burn a Koran Day, initiated by Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Florida, where the organization is intending to hold a massive Koran-burning bonfire.

- **12 September 2010:** Burn the Confederate Flag Day, targeted at the Tea Party and 9/12 movements, which are holding rallies on the same day. Proponents of the flag burning have call the Tea Party "racially divisive" and guilty of hosting an annual "hate fest."
- **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.
- **15 September 2010:** Jobs with Justice holding Jobs Emergency Day of Action. See herein below for more information on relevant events in Pennsylvania.
- **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. ITRR is monitoring for planned Pennsylvania events.
- **17-19 September 2010:** Animal ACTivists of Philly is planning a protest against the Lulu Shrine Rodeo in Plymouth Meeting (Montgomery County). "This is the worst of the worst," the activist material declares.

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

1. Rally to Greet Gov. Rendell in Washington County

Governor Ed Rendell is to meet with Washington County Commissioners tomorrow (7 September 2010) "to discuss his thoughts on natural gas drilling in Pennsylvania and why the state and impacted communities need a severance tax to offset the costs of challenges this industry has created," according to the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources. The conference room in the Washington County Court House where the governor will speak has limited seating, which required advance reservations to attend.

In response to the governor's visit, activists opposed to natural gas drilling have called for a rally at the Washington County Court House starting at 10:00.

"Bring signs, wear anti-drilling t-shirts and support all of the Counties who have been and will be adversely effected by this industry. Please join us," the activist call to action said.

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

ITRR analysts note that the specific targeting of Governor Rendell among anti-drilling activists, as noted in PIB nos. 132 and 133, indicates an increased likelihood of protest activities at the Washington County Court House on 7 September.

Law enforcement duties will primarily be limited to crowd and access control. Isolated cases of more vigorous protest action remains a possibility in light of a previously noted escalation in rhetoric among anti-drilling activists. Recent communications have included a discussion of the advisability of "civil disobedience" and similar direct action to stop the drilling companies, as well as the request for information useful for "the activists." (See PIB nos. 125, 126 and 127 for more on this issue.)

See PIB no. 133 and herein above for other upcoming events in Pennsylvania previously singled out by environmentalist activists. ITRR has no current information regarding necessary police permits.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

2. Protest Targeting the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce

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.

Philadelphia Jobs with Justice called for supporters to come to the demonstration "to tell big business that enough is enough: it's time for fair jobs, full employment, and funding for all of our essential city services." The group's communication on the upcoming rally concluded, "Together, let's send a clear message to the millionaires and billionaires protected by the Chamber of Commerce: it's time to start hiring and end corporate tax breaks."

The JwJ event is slated to start at noon on Wednesday (15 September) at the corner of Broad and Walnut St. Other organizations that have expressed support for the JwJ "Day of Action" nationwide include: the American Federation of Government Employees; BanksterUSA.org; Center for Media and Democracy; Communications Workers of America; DefendEducation.org; Grassroots Global Justice; National Domestic Workers Alliance; National Employment Law Project; Progressive Democrats of America; Right to the City; United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America; United Food & Commercial Workers; US Action; and the US Student Association.

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

Jobs with Justice is a national workers' rights organization that promotes "long-term multi-issue coalition building, grassroots base-building and organizing and strategic militant action as the foundation for building a grassroots movement...." The group claims to be part of labor-oriented coalitions in more than 40 cities in 25 US states.

ITRR analysts believe that law enforcement duties at the aforementioned JwJ event will primarily be limited to crowd and access control at the Chamber of Commerce offices. However, isolated cases of more vigorous protest action remains a possibility in light of JwJ's declared support for "strategic militant action."

ITRR has no current information regarding necessary police permits for the above demonstration.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

3. Terrorist Forces Unite for Attacks on Israel

Hamas appears to be currently intensifying terrorist activities and rhetoric:

1. In reaction to the ambush and murder of four Israeli motorists last week, a Hamas spokesman praised the attackers. They proved, he said, that the people of the Palestinian Authority wish to wage war on "the Zionist enemy."
2. In Gaza, a different spokesman for Hamas claimed that 13 different terrorist groups have joined forces to launch more effective attacks on Israeli targets.
3. This past week saw a second drive-by shooting northeast of Jerusalem and a rocket attack in the south of Israel.

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

ITRR analysts recommend that 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, maintain heightened situational awareness in the south of the country at this time. Precautions against sniping attacks while traveling in the Judea and Samaria regions (the West Bank) and Jerusalem should also be implemented.

ITRR further recommends adhering carefully to any instructions provided by Israeli security forces.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

4. Bangkok on High Alert

Heightened security measures have been put in place throughout the capital of Thailand, Bangkok, following recent grenade attacks.

The Centre for the Resolution of the Emergency Situation (CRES) is concerned about preventing additional attacks in Bangkok by anti-government elements. The emergency situation was originally declared in the wake of massive popular protests against the regime. While most protesters have apparently accepted the government's latest compromises, some anti-regime activists have resorted to terrorist acts.

The areas of highest risk in Bangkok include royal compounds, the homes of key public figures, the mass transit system, power distribution grids, politically symbolic

sites and other government buildings, according to a military spokesman. Public commercial buildings are also considered to be under threat, police say.

In addition, an opposition group in Thailand has warned of a "large sabotage" to strike Bangkok in September 2010.

On 31 August 2010, a grenade was thrown at the facilities of the National Broadcasting Services of Thailand (NBT). Five days earlier, a security guard was seriously wounded in a grenade attack near a duty-free shopping center.

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

Specifically threatened by opposition militants are Thai government buildings and military facilities, although, as noted above, there have been attacks on other public buildings. Security personnel in the vicinity of such targets are advised to enhance situational awareness, including for possible pre-operational surveillance.

Students from Pennsylvania schools (Clarion University, East Stroudsburg, Indiana University, Mansfield University, and Westminster College) taking part in International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP) in Thailand, as well as University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine exchange students at Thailand's Chulalongkorn University, should be made aware of the heightened risk levels in Bangkok and its environs. ITRR analysts reiterate previous guidance to avoid all political gatherings or any large public rallies in Thailand at this time (initially cited as posing severe risk in PIB no. 58).

No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
BANKING AND FINANCE
CHEMICAL
COMMERCIAL FACILITIES
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
COMMUNICATIONS
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
DAMS
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES
EMERGENCY SERVICES
ENERGY
HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
HOTELS AND LODGING
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS
NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS, AND WASTE
POSTAL AND SHIPPING
PRIVATE SECURITY COMPANIES
SOCIAL SERVICES
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.

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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