

## PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #84

### TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

12 MAY 2010

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### ONGOING RESEARCH

#### **1. 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.

#### **2. 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)

### **3. *Eco-Activists Expand Targeting Beyond BP***

Environmental activists are planning to press ahead with a string of protests targeting the BP energy corporation. However, eco-activists' most recent announced protests are slated to expand the bank of targeted entities to include other energy companies, as well as federal and state officials. The next planned Day of Action/Night of Mourning, organized by Rising Tide North America (RTNA), is to take place on 14 May 2010. Activists are to target the following sites: BP gas stations and offices; Halliburton and Transocean offices; federal buildings; offices of members of Congress; state government officials in states affected by offshore drilling; and "other implicated companies". Past targeting of BP included calls to "take to the streets" and to blockade BP service stations nationwide. ITRR analysts note that the BP corporate group includes Amoco, ARCO and BP gas stations, as well as the AM/PM outlets and Castrol motor oil. (See herein below and PAIB nos. 80, 82 and 83)

### **4. *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)

### **5. *UK Post-Election: Sensitive Time Period***

The recent elections in the United Kingdom, which gave the Conservative Party the lead (although unable to establish a single-party government), 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 after 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)

### **6. *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)

### ***7. 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)

### ***8. Jihadists Targeting World Cup 2010 and Other Sports Venues***

Recent jihadist communications include very serious risk indicators regarding the FIFA 2010 World Cup (soccer), to be held in South Africa between 11 June and 11 July 2010, including the implication that Al-Qaeda has the capability to deploy some sort of "dirty bomb" using radioactive material. Jihadist communications have also provided motivation to target the countries involved in the World Cup. More broadly, recent jihadist communications have focused on tactics and strategies for attacks on sports events, using sports paraphernalia or infiltration of sports stadiums. Also discussed were tactics for a coordinated armed attack on a suitably vulnerable stadium.

Students, faculty and researchers attending South African educational institutions through the University of Pennsylvania's African Studies Center, Pennsylvania State University and others, should be made aware of the specific risks associated with attending World Cup games this year.

The explicit reference to sports venues dovetailed with previous jihadist tactical communications regarding the use of Western-born terrorists wearing inconspicuous, appropriate clothing. This intelligence takes on added urgency due to ongoing high-profile professional and collegiate sporting events in Pennsylvania. (PAIB nos. 42, 47, 56 and 72)

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

**Sectors:** COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

### **9. Targeted Intelligence Sharing: An Impromptu Case Study**

ITRR researchers have identified jihadist targeting guidance for lone-wolf terrorist operations against *Al-Arabiya* television staff members and the Dubai emirate (where the station headquarters are located). The named members of the *Al-Arabiya* staff are Rima Salha, Kassam Atta, Abd Alkadir Alabidi, Salam Muhammad, Abu Inad and Majad Alrishawi. An additional named target is the Al-Misbar research institute.

Previous jihadist targeting guidance has focused primarily on Rima Salha, a Lebanese Druze who is the reporter behind an anti-jihad program called *The Death Industry* on the *Al-Arabiya* network. The latest targeting guidance includes identification of an *Al-Arabiya* employee and his family members working in Iraq.

The jihadists' anger is phrased: "We will hunt each and every one of you." Further statements include:

\* "Everybody should take part in the war against this channel and publish everything on the workers of the channel, everyone according his capability. For example whoever works in Iraq, Qatar, Dubai, and all the other workers all around the world."

\* "Whoever can attack the workers by sniping should do it. Whoever can damage their mail posting should do that. Whoever can collect intelligence on them and especially in Rima Salha should do that."

Additionally, the communications attempt to incite an attack in Dubai: "Focus on destroying the program and the channel. Attack all the workers in Dubai, the devil city, the city of Jewish and Christians' investments. The city of corruption. Attack them."

Referring to the *Al-Arabiya* reporter Rima Salha, the jihadist communication warns: "We will reach you with our knives...." Specifically, the jihadist asks for supporters to find out: "Where does she live? Does she have apartments? What is her capital? And to which places does she like to go?"

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

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

The above-mentioned communications are notable as a method of intelligence sharing and targeting, as well as providing motivation for potential lone-wolf jihad terrorists. However, ITRR researchers note that the latest calls for attacks on *Al-Arabiya* staff are not the first of their kind in jihadist communications. Another recent jihadist targeting of a media outlet focused on the BBC (see PAIB no. 71). ITRR analysts note that the above communications and the those regarding the BBC provide targeting guidance to organized terror groups, as well as to lone wolf terrorists. While the journalists and the stations are the primary targets in the recent communications, other civilians, especially Westerners, are deemed acceptable collateral damage among most jihadists.

In light of the foregoing, Pennsylvania students and researchers at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) in Saudi Arabia, as well as American University branches in Cairo, Beirut, Sharjah (UAE), Dubai, Kuwait and other regional educational facilities should be advised of the current increased danger of terrorist activity. Business travelers, military personnel, and oil industry employees and executives from Pennsylvania should be made aware of the increased risk in the named Gulf states (as well as of the ongoing high risk levels in Yemen).

### **Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES**

#### **10. AQIM Calls for Hostage-Taking to Release Van Gogh's Murderer**

ITRR researchers have intercepted specific targeting guidance offered to Al-Qaeda of the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). The communication, from 11 May 2010, specifically requests hostage-taking operations by AQIM in order to obtain the release of an imprisoned terrorist.

Asking, "Do you remember the lion Mohammed Bouyeri or have you forgotten?" the communication requests the kidnapping of Western hostages to be exchanged for him. Bouyeri was arrested and jailed for the November 2004 murder of Theo van Gogh, who had produced a provocative video on Islam.

The communication to AQIM acknowledges the group's expertise in kidnapping operations that the organization has previously exhibited. ITRR analysts note that some prior AQIM hostages were released after the payment of ransom. AQIM has already been called upon to conduct terror activity targeting US-Moroccan training exercises currently being conducted in their area of operations.

\*\*\*\*\* ANALYSIS \*\*\*\*\*

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

ITRR analysts note that AQIM has perpetrated kidnappings or obtained hostages captured in states bordering the regions where AQIM has significant bases of operation. Mali, Niger and Mauritania, specifically, have become high-risk regions for Westerners (PAIB nos. 23, 30 and 31), even as AQIM is based primarily in Algeria. As stated by ITRR analysts (in PAIB no. 37), the high mobility of hostage-taking operations perpetrated by jihadist groups from one state in a neighboring state requires cross-border assistance and collaboration.

There has been a great number of abductions or attempted abductions by AQIM targeting Westerners across North Africa. In light of the ongoing multiple indicators, ITRR recommends that Pennsylvanian students, faculty, researchers and volunteers in North Africa enhance accountability, vary travel routines and increase situational awareness. ITRR analysts note that the risk to NGOs operating in the area claimed by AQIM is increased. As well.

### **Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; ENERGY**

#### **11. Update: ANSWER Anti-BP Protest in Philadelphia**

In continuation to the information provided in PAIB no. 82 - regarding plans to target BP energy corporation facilities nationwide - ITRR researchers noted that the aggressive anarchist group

ANSWER (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism) is holding an anti-BP protest in Philadelphia today (12 May 2010). The rally has been called for 17:00 at 15th and Market St.

The ANSWER Coalition is calling for people to "take to the streets and demand the immediate seizure of BP's assets" in the wake of the currently expanding Gulf of Mexico oil disaster. Preferred locations for protests, they explained in promotional communications, include "BP offices and other locations."

Some "other locations" at which ANSWER is planning to protest include JP Morgan Chase headquarters (in New York) and at the BP Amoco Corporation Government Affairs Office in Washington, DC.

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

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

As noted in past PAIB editions, BP stations are only one of the multinational's corporate holdings that may be targeted by determined environmentalists. The BP group includes Amoco, ARCO and BP, as well as the AM/PM outlets and Castrol motor oil (see PAIB no. 80 for a list of BP stations in Pennsylvania). ITRR analysts believe that varying types of protests are likely to be held at BP and subsidiary locations.

Security personnel and law enforcement should be aware of the planned protests, which may include illegal or violent "direct action" by radical anti-capitalist, anarchist or environmentalist elements in attendance. Primarily, however, law enforcement is likely to have to focus on crowd control, as well as identifying and isolating uncontrolled participants.

**Sectors:** COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

### ***12. Attack on Swedish Cartoonist is Risk Indicator***

The Swedish artist Lars Vilks was attacked yesterday, 11 May 2010, at a lecture at Uppsala University in Sweden. Vilks said he was head-butted by an attacker and three people were arrested by police.

The lecture was heavily attended by Muslim students and guests, apparently seeking to confront Vilks over his 2007 cartoon depiction of Muhammad, Islam's founder, as a dog. The crowd finally erupted into chaos when Vilks showed an Iranian underground video clip of what appeared to be homosexuals wearing Muhammad masks, with an Arabic textual background.

Members of the crowd began shouting in Arabic, "Allahu Akbar!" and clashing with police, who quickly bundled Vilks into a side room. When it was announced that the lecture was cancelled, the protesting students cheered in Arabic.

\*\*\*\*\***ANALYSIS**\*\*\*\*\*

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

ITRR analysts note the above incident as a manifestation of the phenomenon of Islamists physically targeting those individuals deemed to have offended Muslim beliefs (see herein above regarding a jihadiist call to release the murderer of filmmaker Theo Van Gogh).

In Pennsylvania, this has also manifested itself. Pennsylvania resident Colleen LaRose, who called herself Jihad Jane, was recently arrested for plotting to murder Vilks. She denies the charges.

Recent triggers for potential Islamist reaction along the lines of the attack on Vilks include:

- The ongoing online promotion of "Everybody Draw Muhammad Day" on 20 May 2010 (even though the originator of the idea has backed down from it).
- The 2006 decision by the president of Pennsylvania State University to allow a student art exhibit that denigrates Palestinian terrorist groups. The exhibit was initially met with calls for its banning by certain Muslim groups.
- The March 2010 release of a 10-volume series of textbooks titled *World of Islam* by the Philadelphia-based Foreign Policy Research Institute published by Broomall-based Mason Crest Publishers. The Pennsylvania branch of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) condemned the publication and the think-tank.

ITRR analysts are monitoring for indicators of risk - including protests, vandalism or terrorism - related to the above events or to Pennsylvania assets.

**No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:**

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

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THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	DESCRIPTION
<b>LOW (Level 4)</b>	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.
<b>MODERATE (Level 3)</b>	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.
<b>SEVERE (Level 2)</b>	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.
<b>CRITICAL (Level 1)</b>	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](mailto:info@itrintel.org).**

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