

PENNSYLVANIA INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN No. 120

4 AUGUST 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.

CONTINUING RESEARCH

1. **Risk of Adversarial Targeting at Coal-Gen 20-Ten**

Coal-Gen 20-Ten, the coal "industry's most dynamic event," is to be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in **Pittsburgh** on 9-12 August 2010. Although no specific adversarial communications have been identified, maverick protest events or direct action by militants may be expected at/near the event. Branches of financial institutions such as JP Morgan Chase, Citi Bank, Goldman Sachs and Bank of America are potential targets of anti-coal mining activist protests, campaigning or more radical "direct actions." Other companies in Pennsylvania previously identified as targets of ecological activists were the power companies that burn coal mined from mountain-top methods and the offices of Duke Energy (**Philadelphia** and **Robesonia**). (PIB No. 119)

2. **Anti-Abortion 'Direct Action' with Dead Animals**

Anti-abortion militants in Chicago have apparently placed dead animals in packages left at abortion centers. The tactic has led to police alerts of potential improvised explosive devices (IED) at the targeted locations. While no unusual anti-abortion events have been identified in Pennsylvania in the near term, analysts have noted ongoing agitation in pro-life communications. As high-profile pro-life actions in one region can provide activist inspiration elsewhere, the above-mentioned intimidation tactics may be seen at other abortion clinics.

Non-confrontational pro-life educational booths are scheduled to be manned 9-14 August 2010 at the Butler Farm Show (**Butler County**) and at the Greene County Fair (**Greene County**). (PIB No. 117)

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.

3. **Targeting Notes: Climate Action Camp**

On 18-25 August 2010, a Climate Action Camp is planned for Glasgow, Scotland. Organizers cited tar sands oil extraction and other mining operations in North America as motivational events, as well as singling out the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) and Barclays Bank as key targets. This Climate Camp agenda confirms and reinforces the globalization of "green activism." Potentially vulnerable assets of RBS in Pennsylvania include the subsidiary Citizens Bank branches in the state. Barclays Bank operates Barclays Wealth (part of Barclays Capital Inc.) at the Mellon Bank Building in Philadelphia. (PIB No. 117)

4. **Update: Anti-Arizona Protests Take a Dangerous Turn**

Protests against Arizona continue by those opposed to the new Arizona immigration legislation SB 1070, even after a federal court issued an injunction against implementation of the most controversial clauses of the law. The latest events have included highway blockades, vigorous protests that led to many arrests and disruption of an Arizona Diamondbacks baseball game. Anarchists have called for "direct actions in our local communities" in response to the new law.

Opponents of the law in Pennsylvania may target visiting Arizona VIP, delegations or Arizona-related events with protests or "direct action" in the coming weeks and months, including Diamondback baseball games in Pittsburgh in September 2010. Counter-protests by supporters of the Arizona legislation may precipitate violent confrontations between opposing protesters requiring law enforcement intervention. (PIB Nos. 98, 102, 106 and 119)

5. **Update: Euro-American Heritage Fest in Lackawanna County**

Radical White nationalists are promoting an event called the Euro-American Heritage Fest 2010 (AKA European American Heritage Celebration).¹ It is slated to take place on 14 August 2010 in Moosic (Lackawanna County). The Euro-American Heritage Fest 2010 has been publicized on racist forums. Potential violence due to excessive alcohol consumption (despite a ban on alcohol at the event), clashes with anti-racist protesters or with police would not necessarily be limited to the Fest fairgrounds and may be triggered in any of the surrounding areas. (PIB No. 111)

6. **Germany: 'Chaos Days' in 2010?**

Recent communications among German anarchists and anti-authoritarians would seem to indicate a growing desire and planning for a new set of *Chaostage* ("Chaos Days") over the next three years. Monitoring of anarchist communications will continue for indications of Chaos Days and "warm-up" Chaos Days in Europe that pose a risk to Pennsylvania students participating in exchange programs, as well as for any planning related to possible American affinity-group Chaos Days. (PIB no. 114)

¹ <http://whitenationalists.com/home.php>

7. **Increasing and Expanding Focus on Marcellus**

Analysts have identified growing support among anarchists (e.g., **NORTH EAST ANARCHIST NETWORK** and **EARTH FIRST!**) for actions targeting organizations involved in or facilitating drilling in the Marcellus Shale.^{2 3} Eco-terror lone-wolves or organized environmental militant cells may thus be inspired in the coming months to carry out significant "direct actions" targeting Marcellus Shale drilling concerns. In addition, in light of the growing risk indicators, analysts advise situational awareness for all Pennsylvania drilling projects. Flashpoints for confrontations over gas drilling in Pennsylvania (including Marcellus Shale wells) include public meetings and events singled out by anti-drilling activists (See details in PIB No. 118). (PIB Nos. 104, 107, 112 and 118)

8. **Anarchy Summer Camp in August**

The Anarchy Summer Camp, called in order to "prepare for the upcoming International Monetary Fund demonstrations this fall," is scheduled for 6-9 August 2010. Analysts reiterate that there has been an escalation in rhetoric and tactics among anarchist and far-left groups for more than a year, including arson, bombings, vandalism and "direct action." Further acts of anarchist terrorism and vandalism - inspired by the Toronto G20 "actions", the Trois-Rivières, Quebec, bombing and the above Summer Camp - can be expected throughout North America in the near term. Military recruitment centers, police, banks and multinational companies in Pennsylvania - specifically in areas of significant anarchist activity - are advised to increase situational awareness at the present time. (PIB Nos. 94, 107 and 108)

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: *BANKING AND FINANCE; ENERGY; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES*

9. **NEAN: Emphasis on Natural Gas Drilling, IMF and 'Getting Attention'**

The **NORTH EAST ANARCHIST NETWORK (NEAN)** held its annual assembly in Boston from 16-18 July 2010, which included "workshops or skillshares" (as cited in PIB No. 98).

The assembly drew approximately 50 people from Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Northeastern Pennsylvania, as well as from Boston and other areas of Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maine and other areas on the

² <http://www.neanarchist.net/>

³ <http://www.earthfirst.org/>

East Coast. Among those organizations represented were Pennsylvania-based groups such as the Pittsburgh Organizing Group (POG)⁴ and Wooden Shoe (also in Philadelphia).

Lessons Learned

At a session reviewing past anarchist organizing, NEAN activists revealed that the April 2010 "Anticapitalathon Games" (PAIB No. 68) - coinciding with meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in DC - served the ulterior motive of outreach for anti-IMF activism in October, as well as of collecting potentially useful surveillance intelligence. In the view of the NEAN panel, the anti-IMF protests in October are likely to entail "medium to high" risk for anarchists.⁵

NEAN members also reviewed lessons learned from the violence and Black Bloc actions at protests against the G20 in Toronto in June 2010. They felt that police consciously allowed certain militant activities to occur for two reasons:

- To ultimately "rationalize cracking down" even on peaceful protesters
- Because police are afraid to enter a situation in which they do not have an "advantage"

NEAN members felt that if activists display willingness to "defend themselves" against the police, then officers will not be willing to confront them.

Targeting

Discussing targeting, attendees at the NEAN gathering were apparently significantly "inspired" by on-the-ground activism. Specifically and repeatedly cited were actions related to environmental causes such as natural gas drilling. According to one attendee, protesters "who do the most radical stuff" are anarchists.

Other inspiring activities cited by NEAN activists include squatting, guerrilla farming, local bartering systems, sabotage and other initiatives that subvert the "capitalist state."

In subsequent discussions, it was emphasized in specialized forums that NEAN should take the initiative in strategizing resistance to natural gas drilling and to the IMF meeting in October. In addition, several NEAN activists are making preparations for another series of events based on the NEAN's "Month of Anarchy" in May 2010.

Researchers' Note: Planning for the previous Month of Anarchy took place over approximately three months (PIB No. 50).

Strategies

The most noteworthy discussion at the NEAN gathering regarding the purpose of anarchist agitation, vandalism or other "direct action" was that it does not matter

⁴ <http://organize.ussf2010.org/org/pittsburgh-organizing-group>

⁵ <http://boston.indymedia.org/feature/display/210656>

whether the ensuing public attention is positive or negative. The strategic objective, according to many activists, is "to get people interested."

Other strategies discussed included local organizing, networking, using social media, and connecting with other activists. There was a strong indication that NEAN generally favors utilitarian and modular collaboration with non-anarchist groups.

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

NEAN members indicated a desire to spread their ideas, tactics, targeting and strategies among a wider anarchist and anti-authoritarian audience. Analysts have previously identified the cross-pollination, inspiration and intelligence sharing in which such anarchist and affiliated groups engage. In the wake of the NEAN assembly, there will likely be an increased risk of anarchist activity in the northeastern US in the coming months.

There is also a significant overlap between radical environmentalist and anarchist concerns, as can be seen in the NEAN focus on natural gas drilling, for example. In the recent past, anarchist communications have often praised acts of overt eco-terrorism and sabotage. Noted in PIB No. 89, and seen in comments at the recent NEAN gathering, anarchists have made "direct action" targeting **energy facilities**, as well as financial institutions supporting them, a priority.

Specifically relevant to Pennsylvania, is the growing support among anarchists for actions targeting organizations involved in or facilitating drilling in the **Marcellus Shale formation**.⁶ In light of growing risk indicators, analysts advise increased situational awareness for all Pennsylvania natural gas drilling projects in the near term.

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

10. *Jihadists Share Intelligence on Christians in Egypt*

Recent intercepted jihadist communications indicate a renewed focus on pre-operational intelligence gathering regarding Christian assets in Egypt.

One of the communicators expresses outrage about Christians (described as "Crusaders") marrying Muslim women. "... regarding our Muslims sisters, act like it is your sister or mother. You need to defend our sisters. Where are you, believers?"

Attempting to gain information he asks:

"1. Where do the Crusaders live? Where are their villages?"

⁶ <http://www.marcellusshaleformation.com/>

- "2. Where do they travel? Where do their women travel?"
- "3. Where do they work and go to? Where do their women work?"
- "4. Aren't they going to far-off places? Hospitals? Airports? Different cities?"

A second jihadist communication refines the questions by asking "the people of Egypt to describe to us the places that this ethnic group is found, and their daily and weekly movements, where their parties are and who is going to them.

"When do they have their religious holidays? Where are their monasteries ... their tourist sites? Do the tourists get close to the monastery? If you enter Egypt as a German tourist, is it easier to get to the monastery?"

Note: The latter question may indicate a Europe-based jihadist behind this communication.

Another response is more specific and explicit:

"We need to collect (information) on the churches in Egypt. They are located in four cities, including Cairo and Alexandria. I will start researching churches in Cairo."

After the intelligence gathering stage, the jihadist says, "the second step will be to suggest ways to avenge what happened to our sisters."

The communication adds a reference to what is identified as a positive precedent: "Burning the forests in Russia came from an idea that was in the forum a few days ago"

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

This pooling of information has, in the recent past, resulted in the creation of intelligence of sufficiently high quality to conduct terror operations. Recent terror attacks in Egypt have included small cell and lone-wolf operations.

Analyst's Note: This communication, coupled with previous recent jihadist communications, is likely a continuing indicator of jihadist intent to conduct operations in Egypt. Past communications have mentioned the Coptic Christian community in Egypt as a suitable target for *jihad* (PIB Nos. 31 and 33). The community has claimed increasing discrimination and threats to its safety in recent years, with inter-religious clashes occurring periodically in southern Egypt and elsewhere.

The two cities singled out in the jihadist communications as targets for possible church attacks are Alexandria, where **Indiana University of Pennsylvania** students participate in an exchange program, and Cairo, where **University of Pittsburgh** students participate through the American University there. Pennsylvania students, business travelers and tourists should be advised of the current increased danger of terrorist activity at religious and tourist sites in Egypt. In addition, government

offices, major hotels and Sinai resorts have also been preferred jihadist targets for vehicle-borne, improvised explosive device (VBIED) attacks.

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

11. Increased Tension in Northern Israel

Analysts and researchers have observed increased activity along the Israel-Lebanon border in recent weeks. The latest activity has included cross-border, small arms and artillery fire, resulting in military casualties on both sides. Although this activity is fluid, citizens on the Israeli side of the border are not taking to shelters at this time.

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

This current activity is occurring against a backdrop of:

- Reports of unconfirmed unusual activity within Lebanon, including recently established new non-governmental internal roadblocks
- The fourth anniversary of the last Israel-Lebanon War
- A Lebanese glider with the imprint of a Hezbollah TV station that landed in an Israeli army camp two weeks ago
- A new televised speech (3 August 2010) by Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah

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 north of the country at this time. Adherence to any instructions provided by Israeli security forces is paramount.

Sectors: ENERGY, GOVERNMENT FACILITIES AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

12. Earth First! and 'Digital Direct Action'

Hackers apparently affiliated with the militant **EARTH FIRST!** organization managed to temporarily shut down a European carbon-trading website over the weekend, replacing it with a page decrying the London-based European Climate Exchange (ECX) as a fraud.

So-called "hacktivists" from the online **DECOCIDIO** group announced: "In a public act of digital direct action, the ECX website was taken offline and replaced with our message in an effort to try to raise awareness about carbon trading as a dangerous false solution to the climate crisis."

Speaking with the British Guardian newspaper, one of the virtual vandals said their goal was "to cause as much inconvenience, economical loss and image damage as possible...."

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

The cyber-attack came just before an Earth First! gathering called "Ecological Direct Action without Compromise," being held 4-9 August 2010 in Derbyshire, United Kingdom.

IT Security

Security personnel are advised to tighten IT security protocols as much as feasible, especially in those systems identified by green "hacktivists" as targets for attack.

More generally, the ECX hack is indicative of the need for clear operational security and password security protocols for online communications and business because the ultimate effects of faulty IT security are very real - including everything from identity theft to intelligence intercepts to the compromising of valuable assets. In May 2010, for example, over 25,500 Social Security numbers on Penn State University computer systems may have been compromised due to IT security breaches. It is not yet known if there has been any malicious use of the exposed data in the incidents.

Eco-Terror Targeting

The attack on the ECX - though virtual - is an indication of the targeting of carbon exchanges by environmentalist militants worldwide who see the effort as a corporate shell game.

Such a focus may ultimately lead to environmentalist attention turned to the **Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority** (PENNVEST), which just announced the creation of a Nutrient Credit Clearinghouse. PENNVEST has offices in Harrisburg.⁷

As noted in several past PIB, expanding circles of environmentalists and "green anarchists," explicitly including **EARTH FIRST!**, are willing to embrace escalating eco-terrorism.

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

13. Calls for Solidarity with Imprisoned G20 Rioters

A British group is calling for a solidarity rally outside Canada's embassy in London in support of 18 individuals currently in jail on conspiracy charges related to violent riots during the G20 meeting in Toronto in June.

⁷ <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pennvest/9242>

Activists are repeating claims from the North American anarchist groups that protesters in Toronto were "beaten, intimidated, sexually assaulted and threatened with rape. Police used violent racial and ethnic targeting throughout the weekend."

The organizers of the London rally add that "the need for public pressure continues. ... Show the Canadian government that it can no longer pose as an international champion of human rights."

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

The London rally is expected to be peaceful and pose little or no risk to Pennsylvania students in the United Kingdom.

Similar solidarity rallies may be organized by anarchist groups outside the Canadian Consulate in Philadelphia (1650 Market Street) in coordination with, or inspired by, overseas anti-Canada protests. In this regard, analysts note that the month of August is the period during which the anti-authoritarian **CRIMETHINC.** organization is promoting direct action and other creative anarchist activities nationwide.⁸

Researcher's Note: There have been no credible indications of planned protests at the Canadian consulate in Philadelphia or at any other Canadian assets in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The T/I/W rating will be adjusted should new information indicate a change.

No emerging Indicators, Threats and/or Warnings at this time for the following sectors:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
COMMERCIAL FACILITIES
COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS & WASTE
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
DAMS
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE
EMERGENCY SERVICES
GOVERNMENT FACILITIES⁹
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS
POSTAL AND SHIPPING

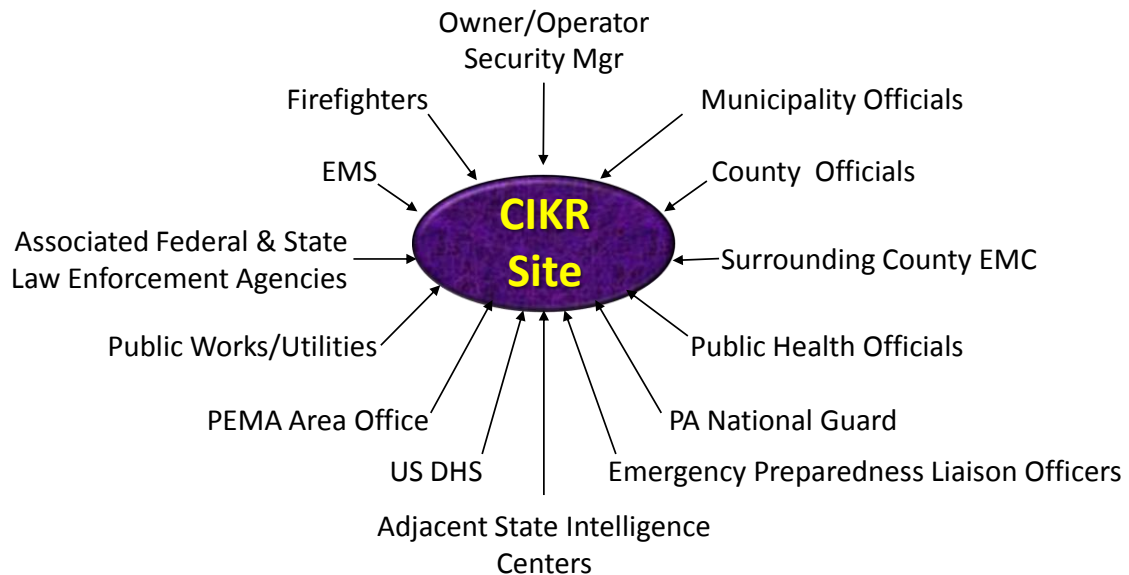
⁸ <http://www.crimethinc.com/>

⁹ 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.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS
WATER

Goal: Situational Awareness Among All Stakeholders

- The Information-Sharing Community -



THREAT / INDICATOR / WARNING RATING	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
LOW (Level 4)	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.
MODERATE (Level 3)	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.
SEVERE (Level 2)	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.
CRITICAL (Level 1)	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, assessments and time-sensitive 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.