

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #88

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

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STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

1. **International Jihad Expanding in South America**

As has been observed by ITRR and others over the years, international jihadists with Iranian backing (such as **Hezbollah**) have been using South America as a foreign training base and relatively safe haven for many years. While deadly bombings of the Israeli embassy (1992) and a Jewish community center (1994) have occurred in Argentina, open and closed-source reports indicate that other terror plots targeting Western and Israeli assets have been foiled since then.

ITRR's Arabic language researchers believe a new wrinkle has emerged regarding identification of internal jihadist communications targeting Colombia itself – this due largely to Colombia's commitment of special operations troops to the fight against the Taliban in Afghanistan. The jihadists state: "Al-Qaeda added Colombia to its 'black list,' which includes all of the NATO countries and all of the allies of the USA." The communication continues, "Al-Qaeda maintains the right to respond in the place and time that it chooses." ITRR researchers note that the communication equates Colombia with a group of previously targeted states, Egypt and Israel.

In addition, the communication provides specific targeting guidance regarding **American military and civilian assets in Colombia**. Of course, as in other areas where such cells become active, terrorist attacks inspired by jihad will not necessarily be limited to military and government contractor assets.

The aforementioned communication takes on additional significance in light of the indications of a relationship between Colombia's **Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People's**

Army (Spanish: *Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia – Ejército del Pueblo*) (**FARC**) terrorist group, Iran and jihadist organizations. Such links are apparently merely mutually beneficial arrangements including drug trade profiteering, safe havens and terror expertise sharing. Since May of last year, ITRR analysts observe the FARC has been involved in a review of its tactics and strategies - including expanding its links with other terror groups.

Another important aspect of the expansion of Islamist activity in South America is, of course, the exploitable connections jihadists have built up for facilitating illegal immigration to the US. Indications are that (at least) hundreds of illegal immigrants of Middle Eastern origin have already crossed into the US by way of well-traveled South American smuggling pathways. In a recent example of this phenomenon, Texas police were alerted to the possible infiltration of a wanted terrorist from the **Shabab Al-Mujahideen**, an Al-Qaeda loyalist organization in Somalia. The individual is believed to have made arrangements to cross into America by way of Mexico.

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: BANKING AND FINANCE, COMMERCIAL FACILITIES, ENERGY AND GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

2. 'Green' Anarcho-Terrorism Ahead of G8/G20

In the context of an intensifying tempo of activities and communications among anarchists, anti-capitalists and environmentalists ahead of the G8 and G20 conferences in Toronto next month (PAIB nos. 50, 59 and 73), a Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) branch in Ottawa was firebombed on 18 May 2010.

A group that stated it will be part of the G8/G20 protests claimed credit for the RBC attack. Damage to the bank branch is estimated at \$300,000. ITRR analysts note that RBC is accused by environmental and anarchist groups of financing environmental destruction in western Canada.

Ominously, the claim of responsibility - attributed to a militant aboriginal-anarchist-eco-terror group calling itself the **FFFC-Ottawa** - includes the warning that "resistance continues. An RBC branch can be found in every corner of Kanada." A video of the RBC attack was uploaded to YouTube.

A subsequent discussion of the RBC bombing by environmentalists prompted the question, "Why RBC? Coca-Cola was a huge sponsor to the Olympics, as was Canadian (beer), Roots and let's not forget HBC who outfitted the entire Canadian team. Many of the corporations listed above have and continue to impact our planet in a negative way, concerned only about their financial status at the end of the day."

***** ANALYSIS *****

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE

While aggressive preparations are being undertaken by anarchist and anti-capitalist groups for disrupting the G8/G20 talks, scheduled for 21-27 June 2010, this month remains a "Month of

Anarchy" (as declared in anarchist communications). ITRR analysts see the RBC bombing as part of this larger picture.

Toronto

ITRR researchers note that self-described "anti-colonial, anti-capitalist organizers and community activists" are building strategies for "plans to resist, confront and disrupt the illegitimate so-called powers that meet behind walls of privilege" at the G8/G20 meetings. They say they are set to "lay the groundwork for a mass mobilization"

ITRR analysts observe that mass protests at such international meetings provide a chaotic environment in which acts of domestic terrorism, such as the 18 May 2010 firebombing, are highly likely.

Organizations intending to be in Toronto during the G8/G20 talks should prepare for unanticipated modifications to their plans. Organizations with facilities in Toronto should prepare their personnel for: the operation of air handling systems to reduce the infiltration of riot control chemicals; the protection and replacement of windows; and the prevention of unlawful entry and damage to property.

Outside Toronto

As noted in PAIB No. 77, anarchist communications include calls for stepped up activities, including "strengthening your struggle in your respective areas." As noted in previous PAIB editions, widespread Greek anarchist rioting and attacks have gained admiration among anarchists worldwide. Last weekend saw two firebomb attacks in Greece attributed to anarchist terrorists (see PAIB No. 86).

Furthermore, as previously noted by ITRR analysts, there is significant overlap between radical environmentalist and anarchist groups, with anarchist communications often praising acts of overt eco-terrorism 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. ITRR analysts have identified several assets and industries that may be targets for eco-activist "direct action" or worse, in Pennsylvania, including branches of financial institutions such as JP Morgan Chase, Citi Bank, Goldman Sachs and Bank of America. Other companies identified as targets of ecological activists include coal companies involved in open pit or "mountain top removal" coal operations, power companies that burn this coal and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Royal Bank of Canada (Pennsylvania branches)

Specifically regarding the RBC, ITRR reiterates that in March 2010 (see PAIB No. 55) the **Rainforest Action Network (RAN)** declared its intention to "keep the pressure on" the RBC over its financing of the Alberta, Canada, tar sands crude oil extraction project.

As ITRR has repeatedly cautioned, RAN has in the past either escalated, or inspired supporters to escalate towards extremely aggressive tactics in their campaigns, including trespassing, lock-downs and vandalism. In light of this, security personnel should review policies dealing with the protection of relevant facilities - such as the RBC branches in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Scranton, Lancaster, Kennett Square - and businesses in the vicinity thereof.

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

3. *Jerusalem Demolition Orders May Serve as Trigger*

Illegal construction in Jerusalem may lead to a serious confrontation in the city and beyond.

In the wake of a legal challenge to the construction of an apartment by Jews in the *Silwan* area of Jerusalem, authorities were forced to also examine illegal construction in a majority-Arab area of the neighborhood known as *Al-Bustan*. In its decision, the court said that the municipality had to apply the same criteria to both properties. Hence, police can only act against the new Jewish-owned construction project if they are also going to issue eviction notices to the residents of the Arab-owned properties.

According to Israeli reports, a member of the *Al-Bustan* Defense Committee was informed that demolition of the Arab-majority neighborhood will be carried out 15 June 2010. Similarly, in late April, Jerusalem municipal inspectors arrived at the Jewish-owned property in question and carried out measurements in preparation for sealing the building's entrances and evicting its residents.

Local Jerusalem, Arab leaders have warned that the displacement of residents of the *Al-Bustan* neighborhood would "cause an uprising among not only Jerusalemites, but also in the West Bank and internationally."

***** ANALYSIS *****

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE

In February 2010 (PAIB No. 52), ITRR analysts observed that a potential trigger for violent action targeting Israeli assets was the issuing of demolition orders in the *Al-Bustan* neighborhood of Jerusalem.

In the event that the demolitions proceed (and even if they include the Jewish-owned property), there remains a significant possibility of riots in Jerusalem. Such civil unrest, if it occurs, is likely to initially center on the Temple Mount and eastern Jerusalem. Jews living in predominantly Arab neighborhoods, as well as security forces (police, army, border guards), are likely to be primary targets.

ITRR recommends 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 in the country, heighten situational awareness at this time, especially in the Jerusalem area. Security risks come from violent protests and lone-wolf attacks, as well as organized

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

Sectors: EMERGENCY SERVICES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

4. *American Resistance Movement Reacts to Arrest of Libertarian Activist*

Anti-authoritarian and self-declared libertarian activist George Donnelly was arrested by US marshals in Pennsylvania on 12 May 2010, leading to several calls to action on his behalf among **American Resistance Movement (ARM)** members (although it is far from clear that ARM and Donnelly are "on the same page", in a practical sense).

Donnelly was arrested (or "attacked" and "mugged and kidnapped" in ARM communications) by federal officers outside the Allentown federal courthouse. According to libertarian activists, he was filming "Fully Informed Jury Association" activists as they handed out pamphlets to jurors entering the courthouse, as well as recording the behavior of the law enforcement agents on the scene. After his arrest, Donnelly was held in a Federal Detention Center in Philadelphia. By the next day, he was released under some restrictions.

Photographs of the US agents involved in the arrest have been shared on militia and libertarian forums. In one communication, a Donnelly supporter said: "All readers in the Philadelphia area are encouraged to ostracize these criminals."

In other communications regarding Donnelly's arrest, an ARM supporter commented (spelling and grammar in the original): "just a reminder, this is what was done in Hitler's Germany. I don't want to hear, 'this can't happen here, this is America.'"

As first noted in PAIB No. 64, ARM is billed as a "non-hierarchical, distributed (leaderless) movement" that is preparing militias for armed conflict with the federal government and agents of what it sees as the "New World Order." For example, in September 2009 a masked and armed ARM leader issued a YouTube call to action video against the G20 members gathering in Pittsburgh.

***** ANALYSIS *****

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE

Lately, militias such as ARM have been increasing the rhetoric, suggesting to supporters that the nation is on the verge of civil war or armed insurrection. While most such groups insist that violence is their very last option, many of them are promoting the idea that other options have nearly run their course without positive results. The federal government is in the process of exercising force against the American people, many militias claim, which would in turn legitimize the use of violence by civilian-led militias.

An example of such rhetoric is a discussion among militia supporters in late April 2010 regarding an Oklahoma bill that would require militias to obtain state licenses. An ARM leader said at the time: "If they succeed in their efforts, this will be the defining line in the sand. ...The you-know-what will hit the fan. I'm telling you we have armories in every county almost in this nation. ...And we're prepared to increase our numbers dramatically when the you-know-what hits the

fan. We are in the position - the Resistance - to arm thousands of patriots that don't even own guns. And we will not disarm. No one will stop us. If we have to, we'll form ten new militias a day if they succeed in this effort."

Similarly, an online store for militia paraphernalia includes a new flag: "This is the newest Patriot flag for the movement. The black represents that no quarter or mercy will be given to our enemies when the shit hits the fan."

In a recent exchange on a public social media website (spelling and grammar in the original), a militia supporter objected to militia supporters "bragging about how they're goin to kill someone. We need to get a select few of people to take out the head of the snake then obliterate the body. You know what im sayin?"

In Pennsylvania, there are both ideologically moderate militias and virulently anti-government militias. The latter may include the **91st Warrior Militia** and the **Brookville Tiger Militia**, which had members jailed in 2008 for illegal sale of explosives. Others include the **Sons of Liberty Militia**, the broad-based **Pennsylvania Citizens Militia** and the **Pennsylvania Constitutional Militia**, as well as regional members of the **Rogue Nation Eternal Militia** movement. (For more on the RNEM specifically and the trend towards apocalyptic thinking among militias generally, see PAIB No. 73.)

ITRR analysts believe the increasing rhetoric mentioned above indicates a need for heightened awareness of militia activities among Pennsylvania law enforcement at the current time.

Potential targets, considering current chatter and recent arrests of extremist militia members, include federal/state law enforcement officers and other government officials.

No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
CHEMICAL
COMMUNICATIONS
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
DAMS
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES
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	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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