

## PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #48

### TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

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### ONGOING RESEARCH

#### **1. Housing Foreclosure Protests to Increase**

What activists are calling "foreclosure resistance" - including trespassing, property occupations, vandalism, and other "direct action" - is steadily becoming a focus for anarchist, communist and socialist groups nationwide. Such actions and training for such actions are ramping up, with American anarchist groups learning from more aggressive housing rights groups across the Atlantic. (PAIB nos. 37, 42 and 44)

#### **2. 'Direct Action' Targeting Energy Industry**

Anti-coal mining activists and related organizations have recently been increasing training and actions targeting the coal industry and related facilities. Recent and upcoming training sessions in West Virginia and Virginia have focused on "skills and knowledge" regarding tactics for: "direct action" (which can include vandalism, obstruction of public and private venues, arson, threats of violence, assault, etc.); handling the media; legal support; action planning; and "other skills relevant for... future actions." European eco-extremist and anti-capitalist communications of 8 January 2010 and thereafter include explicit calls for sabotage of major facilities and murder. Primary targets will continue to be coal and nuclear energy facilities, as well as nuclear waste transit points. ITRR analysts are monitoring for planned "actions" targeting facilities in Pennsylvania, such as in the Marcellus Shale area. (PAIB nos. 2, 20, 32, 33 and 43)

### ***3. Anti-Nuclear Weapons Day of Action***

3 April 2010 is slated to be an International Day of Action to ban nuclear weapons. Activists have been called upon to engage in mass direct actions in Europe, with possible solidarity "actions" in North America. Although not weapons bases, nuclear facilities such as those of Beaver Valley, Limerick, Peach Bottom and Three Mile Island may be targeted for protests. 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. In solidarity with the Belgian activists, who are spearheading the April event and pre-event training, Pennsylvania-region anti-nuclear-weapons activists may also hold protests at Belgium's diplomatic offices in Media and in Pittsburgh. (PAIB no. 44)

### ***4. Eco-Activist Trial to Generate Protests***

Pennsylvania-based climate activists may take up the call issued regarding the Salt Lake City trial of eco-activist Tim DeChristopher for local actions and protests. The target date is currently mid-March, but organizing and training related to protest "civil disobedience" or "direct action" may precede that time. (PAIB no. 46)

### ***5. Seal Hunt Protests Target Canadian Assets***

The activist Global Justice for Animals and the Environment organization is calling for global protests against Canada's seal hunt. A target of such protests in Pennsylvania will likely focus on the Canadian Consulate in Philadelphia (1650 Market Street), while protests in previous years also targeted the Red Lobster restaurant chain (which purchases Canadian fish). (PAIB no. 44)

### ***6. Jihadists Focus on Sports Venues***

Recent jihadist communications have focused on tactics and strategies for attacks on sports events, using sports paraphernalia or infiltration of sports stadiums. 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 the ongoing Vancouver Olympics, as well as high-profile professional and collegiate sporting events in Pennsylvania. (PAIB nos. 42 and 47)

### ***7. 'Global Jihad' of Forest Fires***

Recent jihadist communications have provided detailed guidance for setting forest fires in Western countries, as part of the Islamist effort to spread fear and negatively impact the economies of the targeted nations. Of note is that pre-operational surveillance of a potential target area may be conducted as part of a routine hike in areas such as rural Pennsylvania. (PAIB no. 47)

### ***8. Increase in Greek Anarchist Terror***

Recent events in Greece are indicators of renewed vigorous anarchist activity there. ITRR analysts further expect a continuing increase in anarchist protest actions, vandalism and terror attacks in Greece. There is also a likelihood of protests and possible sympathetic violence abroad. Students and faculty participating in programs in Greece from institutions such as Pennsylvania State University, Arcadia University, Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges, Carnegie Mellon University, and others, should be made aware of the increased risk of anarchist violence in the country. Business travelers are advised to maintain situational awareness regarding local developments, including threats to local banking and state institutions. (PAIB no. 36 and 38)

### ***9. Specific Targeting: Kenya***

Jihadist communications from late 2009 through early 2010 have explicitly called for terrorist attacks on Kenya, specifically targeting the tourist industry and economic assets. Pennsylvanian organizations with continuing contacts with Kenya (such as through Penn State's College of Health and Human Development telemedicine project, humanitarian engineering and social entrepreneurship projects such as this past summer in Nyeri, Kenya, involving students from multiple Penn State colleges, and others; or through the several years of trips and collaboration between the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association and the Kenyan government) should be made aware of the increased risk of attack or abduction in the Horn of Africa and surrounding regions. (PAIB nos.13, 37, 43, 44 and 46)

### ***10. India Confronting Violent Jihad, Separatism and Communism***

India has recently seen a notable increase in jihadist, Communist and separatist terrorism throughout the country, with the latest deadly bombing attack targeting a foreign bakery in Pune. In the wake of the bombing, India has moved to high alert. Aside from the general increased risk of jihadist attacks in the major cities (Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai specifically), there has been a jihadist focus on the Jammu and Kashmir regions. In addition, there is a small, extremely limited risk of jihadist lone-wolf targeting of Indian assets in Pennsylvania, such as Hindu and Sikh temples or activities of the Indian Cultural Association of Pennsylvania (ICAP). The uptick in Communist and regional insurgent attacks was noted in October 2009 and has yet to abate. (PAIB 44, 41 and 47)

### ***11. Turkey: Kurdish Unrest Expected; Possible Attacks in Planning Stages***

Turkish authorities expect that the Kurdish Communities Union (KCK) will hold large, unruly and potentially violent protests in the eastern and southeastern provinces of Turkey from 15 February 2010 until March 21. In December, the Freedom Hawks of Kurdistan (FHK) issued a clear and explicit threat against Turkish cities. ITRR recommends that faculty and students attending the Philadelphia-based American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) facilities in Ankara and Istanbul, as well as at other regional institutions, increase situational awareness. (PAIB nos. 23 and 41)

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

### Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

#### **12. Caucasus Jihad: Continuing Risk**

For several months, ITRR analysts have noted explicit statements by the Islamic Emirate of the Caucasus (an apparent Al-Qaeda affiliate) threatening a lengthy terror campaign deep inside Russia. A newly released interview with IEC chief Dokka Umarov, published in multilingual jihadist forums, continues the trend.

In the interview, reportedly conducted in January, Umarov said, "Blood will no longer be limited to our cities and towns [in the Caucasus]. The war is coming to their cities. ...If Russians think the war only happens on television, somewhere far away in the Caucasus where it can't reach them, then, God willing, we plan to show them that the war will return to their homes."

In addition to giving prominence to the Umarov interview, Caucasus-based jihadist communications have recently been emphasizing a claimed massacre by Russian troops in Ingushetia. The jihadists claim the dead - more than 12 people allegedly killed 11-12 February 2010 - were mostly peasant children and youths out collecting garlic bulbs. The jihadist reporting includes explicit pictures of dead men and alleged descriptions of their ambush, torture and murder by Russian forces.

Russian officials said that some civilians were caught in crossfire between Russian soldiers and a jihadist cell, the latter of which was using the civilians as human shields. Jihadist sources confirmed that five IEC terrorists were indeed killed in battle.

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

**T/I/W Rating: SEVERE**

There have been ongoing attacks on Russian security forces in the Caucasus region in recent weeks, especially in Chechnya and Dagestan, along with intensified Russian counterterrorism operations there. This escalation in quantity, however, has not reached the level of a qualitative change such as the IEC's November 2009 double bombing attack on the Nevsky Express train (which killed around 30 people). ITRR analysts believe that Umarov is under pressure to carry out another serious attack within Russia. The new publication of a January interview reiterating threats Umarov began making in November likely indicates stepped up efforts to execute attacks in the immediate future.

Students at Russian educational institutions through programs such as those of Bryn Mawr College in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Vladimir should be made aware of the current increase in risk of attack throughout Russia. Researchers and linguists pursuing continuing studies through American Councils and similar programs in the Caucasus regions of Russia are particularly vulnerable to attack and abduction by local jihadist elements. (See PAIB nos. 16, 30 and 40 for more details on the IEC threatening statements and recent attacks.)

**Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**13. Attacks Marking Serbian & Kosovo Independence Days**

There have been two bombing attacks, in Kosovo and Serbia, with both apparently ethnically motivated.

\* A bomb detonated in a mixed Serbian-Albanian region of southern Serbia, bordering Kosovo, injured an ethnic Albanian policeman and three other people. The policeman's car blew up outside a cafe in the town of Bujanovac, seriously injuring the officer and lightly injuring his wife and passersby. Investigators said the car bomb was likely perpetrated by Kosovo Muslims in order to intimidate Albanians who want to work with the Serbian police.

\* In Albanian-majority Kosovo, unidentified attackers threw three firebombs at a Serbian home in a mixed Albanian-Bosnian-Serbian neighborhood of Kosovska Mitrovica. Kosovo officials said there were no injuries in the incident.

Of contextual note is the fact that, in January 2008, Serbians in Kosovska Mitrovica were targeted in arson and stoning attacks. Also, in January 2009 it was claimed by locals that 150 jihadists (from a group with a training camp nearby) were spotted in Kosovska Mitrovica.

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

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

ITRR analysts believe it is significant that the latest attacks were perpetrated just before and on Serbia's National Day (15 February), as well as ahead of the anniversary of neighboring Kosovo's declaration of independence from Serbia (17 February). The ongoing tension between ethnic Albanians and Serbians along the Kosovo-Serbia border and within the Albanian-majority Kosovo, especially during this month of national anniversaries, may spill over into vandalism, protests or more serious attacks outside the Balkans.

ITRR analysts note that there is a significant community of Serbian descent in Pittsburgh (some estimates say more than 30,000). Notably, the offices of the Serb National Federation are located at 938 Penn Avenue in Pittsburgh and the American Serbian Club of Pittsburgh (2524 Sarah Street) is billed as "the social gathering point for Serbs in the tri-state area." (The club hosts a every Friday evening, as well as other events during the week.) The East Coast mid-Atlantic region (including Pennsylvania) is also home to smaller, but significant, communities of Albanian descent.

**Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**14. European Communists Praise Action Against PA Firm**

Communist groups in Italy had praise this month for roadblocks of the Caligari airport and of access roads of a factory in protest over the closure of two plants of the US-based Alcoa company. The protesters, initially supported by the relevant labor unions, shut down air traffic for a day at the Caligari airport and prevented merchandise from being brought in or sent out of the Fusina factory.

According to the Communist discussions on the events, these and other protests are bringing "class struggle" back into the public eye. In fact, for some of the Communist activists, the high-profile "actions" remind them of "radicalized methods" seen in 2009, which "included kidnapping bosses and the seizure of factory installations in France."

The communications on the issue call for imposing "a working-class solution" on capitalists, "through the unity of ranks of the working class".

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

**T//W Rating: LOW**

Such rhetoric about unity of the working class, and the fact that the European Communist communications on the Italian protests were in English, ITRR analysts believe, contribute to the likelihood of solidarity actions outside Italy and the EU. In the United States, such solidarity actions would initially likely focus on the Alcoa company's Corporate Center in Pittsburgh (201 Isabella St.). As of this writing, however, there is no indication that PA activists have planned such a protest.

**Sectors:** COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

### **15. SHARK to Defend Pigeons in PA**

An animal rights organization known as SHARK is focusing on a two-day "pigeon shoot" to take place in Pike Township, Pennsylvania, beginning 20 February 2010.

SHARK announced that their activists are "wholly committed to fighting these barbaric pleasure kills" and that they "will be at the shoots". They are also calling for a letter-writing campaign, adding contact information for those who "want to get personally involved and can either attend a protest Saturday or want to become part of the SHARK team on the ground".

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

**T//W Rating: MODERATE**

Past pigeon shoot protests, including in Pennsylvania, have led to physical confrontation between the shooters and animal rights activists. ITRR analysts advise monitoring the event and the Pike Township Sportsman's Association (sponsoring the shoot) for aggressive protests or violent reactions.

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

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

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@terrorresponse.org](mailto:info@terrorresponse.org)**

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