

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #78

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

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ONGOING RESEARCH

1. **Covert Training for Attacks Within the USA, Israel**

ITRR intercepted jihadist communications providing strategic guidance for covert training and attacks from within the US and Israel. Suggested approaches included: establishing military training camps in out-of-the-way forest lands in CONUS and establishing a terrorist unit in Israel made up of Israeli Arabs. In both cases, the tactical objective/intent is to launch attacks from within the targeted countries, preferably perpetrated by citizens of those states. The strategic goal is "to create disorder and to occupy the enemy with his own problems, so that we can organize against him." The **Muslims of the Americas (MOA)** organization and the North American branch of **Jamaat Al-Fuqra** have such camps in wooded regions near several small towns nationwide. The **MOA** has reportedly been constructing a facility (unconfirmed) in **Sherman**, Pennsylvania, and may have representatives in Philadelphia as well. ITRR analysts suggest that there is every reason to believe that jihadist cells are already acting on strategic guidance similar to that mentioned herein. (PAIB No. 76)

2. **Multiple, High-Profile, Pro-Israel Events in April and May**

In **Philadelphia**, the annual Israel Independence Day celebration, which regularly attracts thousands of supporters and anti-Israel protesters, will be held at **Penn's Landing** on the Delaware River Waterfront on 23 May 2010. ITRR analysts have noted increased chatter among jihadists, anarchists and radical anti-war elements discussing hostile attacks on Jewish and Israeli assets worldwide, which can include the Israeli consulate in Philadelphia, high-profile

Jewish institutions, synagogues, communal events and pro-Israel gatherings such as the Penn's Landing Event and small, localized Israel Independence Day events in Pennsylvania.

3. *Irish Republican Terror Resurgent*

There has been a notable increase in terrorist actions by Irish Republican factions since late last year, with republican dissident terror groups such as the **Real IRA (RIRA)** or **Continuity IRA (CIRA)** intensely attempting to revive sectarian violence. Recent attacks and attempted attacks have included vehicular-borne, improvised, explosive devices (VBIED) targeting law enforcement and military assets in Northern Ireland. General situational awareness is called for among students and faculty associated with overseas programs in Northern Ireland, such as those of **Millersville University** and the **Pennsylvania College of Technology**. (PAIB Nos. 52 and 71)

4. *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)

5. *Anarchists Gearing Up for G8/G20: May is '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 US through May 2010 (billed as a "Month of Anarchy"). ITRR researchers are currently monitoring the anarchist networks for targeting indicators in Pennsylvania. (PAIB Nos. 50, 59 and 73)

6. *Environmental 'Direct Action' and the Drift Toward Eco-Terror*

(See herein below, "Eco-Terrorists Target a High-Tech Research Center," for the latest, most serious manifestation of this trend; identified by ITRR analysts in PAIB Nos. 32, 33, 50 and 68, among others.)

7. *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 - 11 July 2010, including the implication that **Al-Qaeda** has the capability to deploy some sort of nuclear WMD. Jihadist communications have also provided motivation to target the countries involved in the World Cup. Students, faculty and researchers attending South African educational institutions through the **University of Pennsylvania's African Studies Center** (the Fulbright-Hays Intensive Intermediate-Advanced Zulu Group Project Abroad in KwaZulu-Natal), **Pennsylvania State University** (the Alliance for Education, Science, Engineering and Development in Africa, in conjunction with the University of Cape Town), and others, should be made aware of the specific risks associated with attending World Cup games this year. More broadly, 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 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: BANKING AND FINANCE; CHEMICAL; COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES; ENERGY; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES; NUCLEAR REACTORS, MATERIALS, AND WASTE; AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

8. *Eco-Terrorists Target a High-Tech Research Center*

Three (3) members of **Il Silvestre** ("The Woodland"), an Italian anarchist eco-terrorist organization, were arrested on 15 April 2010 on suspicion of planning to bomb a new IBM nanotechnology research facility under construction outside Zurich, Switzerland.

Police who stopped the suspects' vehicle a few miles from the IBM facility reportedly found "a large quantity of explosives" primed for use. Two of the arrested men, Constantino Ragusa and Silvia Guerini, both Italian, have served time for eco-terror crimes. Their accomplice in the latest alleged plot is Luca Bernasconi, a Swiss citizen.

Il Silvestre - opposed to nanotechnology and nuclear power, among other modern advances - gained notoriety in green anarchist and "Earth liberation" circles in 2004 when several of their members were arrested on conspiracy and terrorism charges.

***** ANALYSIS *****

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE-to-SEVERE

It is unclear at this time if the proposed IBM attack was part of a larger terror campaign. However, ITRR analysts noted (see PAIB No. 32) that eco-extremist and anti-capitalist communications have begun to include explicit calls for arson, sabotage of major facilities and even murder, with a January 2010 communication saying that "everything else is child's [play] ..." In addition, the **Earth First!** movement has also taken a turn to advocating more aggressive civil disobedience and sabotage (see PAIB No. 68). As previously noted, ITRR analysts see the increasingly violent rhetoric among environmentalist militants as a significant development for domestic eco-terrorism.

In the wake of the apparently expanding circles of environmentalists willing to embrace eco-terror of one form or another, 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. Specific assets and industries named in related environmentalist communications, and that may therefore be targets for "direct action" in Pennsylvania, include:

- **Pennsylvania State University's Nanofabrication Laboratory**, which has already collaborated with IBM nanotech researchers in Zurich.
- Facilities deemed to have any connection with nuclear weapons development, storage or transportation. 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.
- Any corporation that extracts, refines, or uses carbon-based energy sources; petrochemical companies involved in the extraction of gas and oil from the Tar Sands of Canada (including Shell); coal companies involved in open pit or "mountain top removal" mining operations, and the power companies that burn this coal; and drilling projects in the **Marcellus Shale area** of Pennsylvania.
- Branches of financial institutions such as JP Morgan Chase, Citi Bank, Goldman Sachs and Bank of America (A JP Morgan Chase office in Florence, South Carolina, received a package with suspicious white powder on Wednesday, 21 April 2010.)
- Politicians, leading figures of heavy industry, and law enforcement officers; specifically, government offices and personnel charged with protecting the environment, including the **Department of Environmental Protection** and the **Environmental Protection Administration offices in Philadelphia**.

The combination of ecological militants and anarchy will apparently continue to prove very volatile, since, like their environmentalist militant allies, anarchist rhetoric has also seen a shift toward support for extremist action in the past year. As noted in PAIB editions in November and December 2009 (Nos. 20, 31 and 32), environmentalists and associated anti-capitalists pivoted off of the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit to encourage more "direct action" by their cadres worldwide. In addition, widespread Greek anarchist rioting and IED attacks have gained admiration among anarchists worldwide (e.g., PAIB No. 73).

ITRR analysts believe that public eco-anarchist events on the East Coast of the US, including Pennsylvania, pose a moderate risk to public order. However, the indicators identified above point to an increasingly severe risk of "green anarchist" covert and eco-terrorist activity in areas with significant anarchist populations.

SECTORS: CHEMICAL, COMMERCIAL FACILITIES AND GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

9. *Jihadists in Afghanistan Deploy Poison Gas Against Schoolchildren*

On 25 April 2010, an attack on a school for girls in Afghanistan apparently included the use of poisonous gas. More than a dozen people, mostly children, were said to be ill as a result of an unidentified gas in their school building. The attack was assumed to be the work of Taliban-backed Islamists, although the Taliban leadership formally disassociated itself from the incident.

Over the previous week, two other girls' schools in the same province were also the target of poisonous gas attacks. About 80 schoolchildren reported symptoms such as headaches, nausea, vomiting and shivering after the suspected poisonings.

A government spokesman said "anti-government" groups were behind the poisoning campaign.

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

ITRR analysts see the flooding of targeted facilities with poisonous gas as a potential jihadist tactic that should be considered in preparing security protocols and emergency response procedures. Relevant personnel are advised to heighten awareness of suspicious acquisitions or theft of large quantities of toxic or component chemicals from those companies involved in the production and trade of such compounds.

In related ITRR research, as noted in PAIB No. 47, intercepted jihadist communications included guidance suggesting running a targeted building's gas line back into the building via the sewage system. This was intended as a method to flood the facility with gas and then detonate it, but a similar tactic could be used for introducing poisonous gas or other chemicals into a relatively unsecured building, such as a public school.

SECTORS: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES AND GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

10. *'We Want to See the Blood of the American People Streaming in the Streets'*

The tempo of calls and demands for jihadist attacks within America has reached a crescendo in recent days, following the killing of senior **Al-Qaeda** leaders in Iraq (Abu Ayyub Al-Masri and Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi), by Iraqi security forces this month.

In newly-intercepted communications, jihadists call for a "devastating" response, which "should be inside the USA. We want to see the blood of the American people streaming in the streets." Other places the jihadists apparently want to see "blood in the streets" include:

- Saudi Arabia: "We want to see the blood of the Saudi people on the television screens."
- Iraq: "We have faith in the jihadists in Iraq that they will destroy the Christians."
- South Africa: "We want to see the blood of the Christians in South Africa stream in the stadiums during the World Cup." (See "Ongoing Research" item No. 7 above, as well as PAIB Nos. 42, 47, 56 and 72, for more on this repeated risk indicator.)

Similarly, addressing America and other "enemies of Allah," Iraqi jihadists issued a statement saying: "Prepare yourselves for battle, but this time in your homelands, so you will comprehend who we are and who you are. ... We vow to you that we will not give you rest after what you have done. And if you kill the jihad fighters in all of Iraq, then we will come to you from underneath the ground and above it, and we'll attack you inside your homes and lands, fools, for you will suffer the consequences of your actions."

***** ANALYSIS *****

T//W Rating: MODERATE

ITRR analysts note that it is unclear if the jihadists behind the above communications have the operational capacity to conduct operations in CONUS; however, as has been seen several times in attacks within the US, lone-wolf jihadists can easily be either inspired or explicitly directed by **Al-Qaeda** operatives from afar.

Although the primary target for jihadist wrath over the Iraqi Al-Qaeda killings is the US (as is clear from some of the above-mentioned communications), other Western countries are also considered high-priority targets.

ITRR researchers are monitoring jihadist communications for specific targeting discussions relevant to assets in or from Pennsylvania. However, as of this writing, there are no indications requiring heightened situational awareness in Pennsylvania specifically.

No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
COMMUNICATIONS
CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
DAMS
EMERGENCY SERVICES
HEALTHCARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS
POSTAL AND SHIPPING
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@itrrintel.org.

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