

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #56

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

8 MARCH 2010

The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response (ITRR) produces this document specifically for the Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security in support of public and private sector, critical infrastructure protection initiatives and strategies. The ITRR, a commercial research and analysis organization, uses open-source, human, and closed-source intelligence resources to derive 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. Consider in context with other known information.

ACTIONABLE DATE REMINDERS

- **1-14 March 2010:** Anti-Israeli activists have declared an International Israeli Apartheid 'Week', to include protests, lectures and "actions". In Pennsylvania, any vigorous protests - possibly including some "direct action"-type illegality - will likely focus on the Israeli consulate in Philadelphia. Potential targets for vandalism or lone-wolf terrorism in the region include any high-profile Jewish institution, synagogue or communal event. In addition, pro-Israeli gatherings or counter-demonstrations may be seen as population targets for attacks by extremist activists or actual terrorist cells. (PAIB no. 50)
- **7-13 March 2010:** The Rainforest Action Network (RAN) is planning what it has dubbed National Palm Oil Week of Action, including protests outside grocery stores carrying General Mills products. This is part of the larger RAN campaign targeting General Mills. Previous RAN targets have been the scene of illegal actions including trespassing, lock-downs and vandalism. ITRR expects RAN-inspired protest actions in March to target other outlets carrying General Mills products, as well as General Mills facilities. In Pennsylvania, the latter may include those in Lancaster, McKeesport, Marcus Hook, Montgomeryville and Prospect Park.

- **15 March 2010:** Animal rights activists will be holding an International Day of Action Against Seal Hunting. ITRR analysts expect protests at Canadian embassies and consulates. Previous years' protests also targeted Red Lobster sea food restaurants that serve Canadian-caught fish.
- **17 March 2010:** Progressive Democrats of America will be holding Brown Bag Lunch Vigils, to protest US involvement in the ongoing wars in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan, at the offices of: Cong. Charlie Dent (701 W. Broad St.) in Bethlehem; Cong. Chaka Fattah (4104 Walnut St.) in Philadelphia; and Cong. Joe Sestak (600 N. Jackson St.) in Media.
- **26-28 March 2010:** NC Rising, an anarchist and anti-authoritarian conference in North Carolina, is slated for Chapel Hill. Attendees will learn about statewide networking, squatting and occupying public property, "eco-defense", direct action and more. Attendees are likely to include anarchists from outside the state, with lessons learned applied throughout the East Coast (and beyond), including among Pennsylvania anarchist groups.
- **1 April 2010:** Rising Tide North America (RTNA) announced a nationwide campaign called "Fossil Fool's Day". Tactics advocated for the April RTNA campaign include, according their promotional materials, "the simply subversive to the downright disruptive". Activists are encouraged to take action in their own regions. Energy firms in Pennsylvania, particularly coal-based energy producers and nuclear waste transportation companies, face the possibility of eco-activists targeting their facilities. Additional targeting may include the EPA regional office in Philadelphia. (PAIB no. 43)

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES; COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

1. Planning for SDS 'Actionvention' in Pittsburgh

ITRR researchers have intercepted internal communications among activists from the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) organization in which they discuss preparations for what they are calling an "Actionvention", possibly in Pittsburgh.

The SDS appears to be still in the planning stages regarding target dates, although they have eliminated the international Communist holiday known as May Day (1 May 2010) and are currently considering 17-18 April 2010.

Among the other organizations they hope to bring together for the "Actionvention" are the Student Environmental Action Coalition, Earth First!, anti-war groups, Mountain Justice, the Peace and Justice Center, and others.

On a follow-up note, the SDS communications also mention a Pittsburgh climate conference slated for June.

*******ANALYSIS*******

T/I/W Rating: MODERATE

In light of the potential for disorder and disruptions implied in the term "Actionvention" (possibly referring to direct actions at the convention or referring to direct action training), which may draw more confrontational elements to the event, ITRR analysts are continuing to monitor SDS planning communications. ITRR analysts are currently tracking the SDS discussion of possibly gathering for the event at the Thomas Merton Center (5125 Penn Avenue) in Pittsburgh.

Sectors: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES; COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

2. Lancaster Protest Against Desecration of Native American Graves

Several Native-American rights organizations have announced a demonstration planned for 11 March 2010 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. They will be protesting against what they say is the desecration of an ancient Susquehannock village site that includes several graves.

According to the organizers, artifacts and bones from the site have been "distributed by students of archeology from the anthropology dept. of Temple Univ. coordinated by Michael Stewart under the direction of Jim Herbstritt of The PA. Historical Museum commission" (grammatical errors in the original). The area is apparently slated for residential development.

The desecration cited by the Native-American rights groups "is regular and normal in PA. And this must stop," they claim, adding, "its time to act like human beings and show some respect for First Americans, thier Ancestors and thier memory" (grammatical errors in the original).

The communication cites Coldwell Banker as involved in marketing the development project in question.

The protest is being organized by Spiritual Wolf Warrior, the American Indian Movement (AIM), the Indigenous Rights Movement (IRM), the Leonard Peltier Support Group, and Walks with Wolves. It is slated to take place at 10:00 in Southern Village, at the corner of Wabank and Waypoint Drives, near Route 741.

*******ANALYSIS*******

T/I/W Rating: LOW

The Native-American rights groups have stated explicitly that they are seeking to influence Pennsylvania leadership to amend current laws to help protect the designated sites, such as Southern Village. This implies a peaceful protest designed to conform to legal norms, although ITRR has no current information regarding police permits obtained for the planned event.

At the same time, ITRR analysts note the small, but present, risk that the above-mentioned issue may be taken up by more radical elements, potentially including anarchists or lone-wolf Native-American rights supporters. In that event, possible targets for vandalism or other direct action may include the Southern Village development construction site and related offices, Pennsylvania government buildings, Temple University campuses, and Coldwell Banker branches throughout the region.

Sectors: ENERGY

3. Repeat Terror Threat in Key Arabian Peninsula-Area Sea Lane

A new Arabic-language communication intercepted by ITRR researchers confirms and extrapolates an ongoing emphasis among jihadists on targeting Western naval and maritime assets in the area around the Arabian Peninsula.

In the above communication, entitled, "A letter from one of the Somali tribes' sons to the proud sons of Yemen", a jihadist says, "our meeting is the sea and Bab Al-Mandab". This refers to the strait in the area between Yemen and the Horn of Africa. "Don't be late for the appointed time and don't be afraid," the communication continues.

"Don't let down our Sheikh Osama Bin-Laden," the Somali jihadist implores. He also explicitly notes that "the Somali tribes are ready, and so are the tribes from the forests of Kenya, Sudan, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda."

*******ANALYSIS*******

T/I/W Rating: SEVERE

ITRR researchers have noted continuous planning for the targeting and disruption of international maritime traffic in the Arabian Peninsula region, with a specific focus on Bab Al-Mandab. Al-Qaeda leaders and other jihadists have made their intentions to take control of this sea passageway clear. A communication cited in PAIB no. 50, for example, was titled, "Urgent for the jihadists of Somalia and Yemen: A proposal to close Bab Al-Mandab." An improvised mine tactic was discussed for Bab Al-Mandab attacks. (Makeshift anti-ship mines, or barrel bombs, were later employed in the Mediterranean Sea, off the coast of Israel.)

According to ITRR analysis, the intent of the aforementioned maritime terror operation is, among other things, to cause a direct effect on Western-bound shipping in the region. Such an attack strategy, if successful, can be expected to affect energy supplies to the Pennsylvania region, as well.

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

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

***Working with organizations that refuse to surrender their
domestic or international operations to terrorism***

Ensure that you always receive the latest information from The Institute of Terrorism Research and Response. Add the e-mail address, "info@itrintel.org" to your personal address book.

This Intelligence report includes information from open and closed intelligence sources. Not all information is able to be verified; however, the TAM-C is actively evaluating the reporting to establish its accuracy and to determine if it represents a possible link to terrorism. If recipients have any additional or clarifying information, please contact the Targeted Actionable Monitoring Center (TAM-C) at +1.215.922.1080.

Actionable Intelligence Weekly Briefing® A general overview of actionable intelligence (upcoming events) used by directors of security and law enforcement managers to pre-plan their future operations. The Briefing is dispatched on Monday of each week by 1100 GMT to enable early planning of the upcoming weeks.

Threat and Hazard Monitoring (THM) A custom service meeting the needs for each client. With the assistance of our international analysts, this service identifies specific threats, hazards, vulnerabilities, and assets our team of native language speakers researchers and ground resources, are to monitor and forward on to the client.

For additional information regarding the Center's services or specialized customized research and analysis programs, feel free to contact us at: info@itrintel.org