

PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #63

TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

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ONGOING RESEARCH

1. **Pittsburgh's SDS 'Actionvention'**

The far-left, anti-authoritarian Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) organization is planning what they are calling an "Actionvention," most likely to take place in **Pittsburgh**. The SDS is currently considering 17-18 April 2010 for the event, a training, learning and action gathering which will include groups like Earth First!, anti-war groups, Mountain Justice, the Peace and Justice Center, and others. The "Actionvention" may draw confrontation-oriented radical elements. ITRR is attempting to identify planning and logistics to determine size of the event. (PAIB no. 56)

2. **Greek Anarchists Upping the Ante**

Police shot and killed a 35-year-old anarchist and alleged terrorist named Lambros Fountas on 10 March 2010 in Athens. Anarchist reaction to the killing has steadily escalated, including arson, vandalism and bombings in Athens and Ioannina (Janina). 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. There is also a potential of protests and possible sympathetic violence abroad. ITRR researchers are currently monitoring the anarchist networks for Pennsylvania targeting indicators. (PAIB nos. 36, 38, 59 and 62)

3. *Anarchists Gearing Up for G8/G20 Meetings*

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 April and June. ITRR analysts believe that the Northeast Anarchist Network (NEAN) will be stepping up its activities (legal and illegal) in the northeastern United States 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 and 59)

4. *'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. Training sessions in West Virginia and Virginia have focused on "skills and knowledge" regarding tactics for "direct action." Eco-extremist and anti-capitalist communications of 8 January 2010 and thereafter include explicit calls for sabotage of major facilities and murder. ITRR analysts identified several specific assets and industries that may be targets for eco-activist "direct action" 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 were coal companies involved in open pit or "mountain top removal" coal operations, power companies that burn this coal, the Environmental Protection Agency and the offices of Duke Energy. (PAIB nos. 2, 20, 32, 33, 43, 50 and 61)

5. *Anti-Nuclear Weapons Day of Action*

Anti-nuclear weapons activists are planning and perpetrating "direct actions" as practical field training leading up to an International Day of Action on 3 April 2010, slated to be an International Day of Action to ban nuclear weapons. (PAIB nos. 44, 50 and 57)

6. *Al-Qaeda Branches Seeking Collaboration on Maritime Terrorism*

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 and collaboration between Arabian and African Al-Qaeda branches. According to ITRR analysis, the intent of the aforementioned maritime terror operation would be, 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. Most recently, Yemen has increased security around oil and maritime installations in the Arabian Peninsula region. (PAIB nos. 50 and 56)

7. *Jihadists Reminded: Target the Chinese*

ITRR analysts have identified a jihadist call to target personnel and assets of the People's Republic of China (PRC) within the Chinese state and globally. Previous attacks - both in Xinjiang, China, and elsewhere - have ranged from bombings to ambushes with small-arms fire. Organizations in close proximity to high-profile Chinese assets or groups should take note of increased pressure to target these assets by lone-wolf or small unit terror organizations. Within China, students and faculty from Pennsylvania colleges taking part in International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP)(e.g., [Indiana University of Pennsylvania](#) exchange students, as well

as University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine) exchange students should be made aware of the specific regional risks in western China. (PAIB no. 55)

8. *Monitoring Anti-Government Leaderless Resistance*

ITRR researchers are monitoring an anti-government, militia, umbrella organization, also linked with anarchist libertarian elements, that has been promoting armed, dispersed and "leaderless resistance" against what it defines 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 group appears to have a Pennsylvania chapter; ITRR analysts are analyzing communications regarding the current status of group branches. ITRR analysts have further identified the current passage of universal healthcare legislation as a significant catalyst for increasingly volatile anti-government communications.

SECTOR-SPECIFIC THREATS, INDICATORS AND/OR WARNINGS

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

9. *Communists Protest Counterterror Campaign ... with Acts of Terrorism*

Maoist (Communist) and separatist terrorists in India, known as Naxalites, have conducted a series of coordinated, highly disruptive and fatal terrorist attacks in the past few days. Ostensibly, the attacks were part of a two-day strike in Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and districts of Maharashtra in protest over an intense counterterrorism campaign in those regions. The ongoing campaign was initiated by the Indian security forces in response to a sharp uptick in Communist and insurgent militia attacks, as noted by ITRR researchers in October 2009.

* In Bihar, a bomb destroyed a section of rail along the Bhubaneswar-New Delhi Rajdhani Express line, throwing ten passenger cars off the the tracks. None of the hundreds of passengers were injured, primarily because the train was travelling at a relatively low speed after the alert conductor received communications of a disruption along the line.

* In Jharkhand, Maoist gunmen attacked a steel factory, followed by an ambush on security forces responding to the call for assistance. One policeman was killed in the subsequent gun battle.

* Also in Jharkhand, a 65-year-old villager accused of being a police informer was shot dead by Maoist gunmen. In the same state, four businessmen were abducted by suspected Naxalites.

* In Orissa, two explosions, one after the other, shut down rail service along the Mumbai-Howrah route. A goods train was derailed.

- * In Jharkand, tracks were blown up between Chhipa Dohar and Hehegarha railway stations.
- * In West Bengal, railway tracks were targeted with IEDs at two separate points.
- * Over 500 Maoists descended on a Bihar market to enforce the strike. Six policemen were injured in the subsequent exchange of gunfire. Elsewhere, Maoists set a police vehicle on fire.
- * In West Midnapore, Maoist gunmen shot and killed a leader of a village branch of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).

In response to the surge in attacks, New Delhi officials issued an advisory for those states with a heavy Naxalite presence to increase patrols along railway tracks. Train conductors traveling through such areas are now required to slow to 75 km per hour (they normally travel at about 120 km per hour). Security forces expressed concern that focusing on the tracks may expose their own base camps to attack by the Maoist insurgents.

***** ANALYSIS *****

T//W Rating: MODERATE

As noted in PAIB nos. 41 and 58, terror incidents in India indicate that the entrenched Naxalite and regional insurgencies are pressing ahead, despite counter-terror successes. This week has thus far been a clear example of this phenomenon.

ITRR analysts reiterate that the Indian states most vulnerable to Communist or separatist attacks include: Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. Manipur has also come under a terrorist threat, with warnings of "ethnic cleansing" against non-Manipurians.

Researchers and faculty at **New Delhi's University of Pennsylvania Institute for the Advanced Study of India (UPIASI)**, as well as business travelers and tourists from Pennsylvania, should be made aware of the heightened threat level in the aforementioned regions. Travel in such areas should be avoided or carried out with proper local guidance.

Sectors: ENERGY & GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

10. *Americans Under Threat in Nigeria*

A new Al-Qaeda-aligned communication intercepted by ITRR researchers has explicitly targeted Americans in Nigeria.

Referring to Americans, the communication says that "the heretics damaged everything in our country [Nigeria] with the cooperation of our authorities." The jihadist statement continues with claims that the United States "established military bases" and "stole our natural resources."

In response to the described situation, the communication declares that "the only way is jihad, the way of Allah is to fight them and banish them."

To the jihadists in Nigeria, the communication advises "reach out your hand and help your brothers. Your help will come from Al-Qaeda in North Africa (AQIM). Cooperate with them and you will succeed."

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

T/I/W Rating: SEVERE

Nigeria is already faced with inter-religious violence and attempts to insinuate a jihadist agenda into regional incidents. However, unlike most of the previous jihadist communications regarding Nigeria, the above statement specified the targeting of Americans and, by extension, all Westerners in the country.

In PAIB no. 42, for example, ITRR researchers noted that Al-Qaeda of the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) issued a communication pledging to avenge spilled Muslim blood in Nigeria by attacking Christians. This followed an August 2009 declaration by Nigeria's anti-Western Boko Haram (BH; a.k.a. Nigerian Taliban) Islamist group formally placing itself at the service of Al-Qaeda.

ITRR's Africa Desk expects inter-religious reprisal violence to increase, as will attacks on the foreign petrochemical facilities and oil pipelines in the Niger Delta region. Violence against Westerners will increase in many areas of Nigeria, as well. ITRR recommends that Westerners working in Nigeria increase personal protection at this time, including exchange students from the **University of Pennsylvania's School of Dental Medicine**. Disruption of oil supplies from Nigeria is likely to quickly affect North America, including Pennsylvania.

Sector: GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

11. Further Jihadist Targeting of Kenya

The jihadist focus on Kenya appears to be increasing steadily, with a recent communication from an Al-Qaeda-aligned source recommending the initiation of a preemptive "holy war" with the "heretic regime" of Kenya. "Kenya is mobilizing thousands of her forces in addition to the training that she provided for Somali forces," the jihadist declares.

The intercepted communication continues, "To our brothers in Kenya: go out and help Somalia [meaning, *Shabab Al-Mujahideen*] your neighbor country, help in any way you can."

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

T/I/W Rating: SEVERE

ITRR analysts see this recent communication as further evidence of a global jihadist desire to relieve pressure on *Shabab Al-Mujahideen*, which is imposing Islamic rule on parts of Somalia and fighting with Somali government forces. It is also part of an escalating series of communications (see PAIB nos. 13, 37, 43, 44 and 46) in which Kenya has become a new center of attention for jihadists in Africa and beyond. Another recent relevant communication

(see PAIB no.46) was a statement by the *Shabab Al-Mujahideen* threatening the start of jihad against Kenya. A more specific jihadist communication (see PAIB no. 44) recommended the use of vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices in Nairobi and tourist locations within Kenya.

In light of the foregoing, ITRR analysts foresee greater Islamist and jihadist activity on both sides of the Somalia-Kenya border in coming weeks. Specifically, the potential for attacks against Western-identified or Western-allied targets, as well as tourist sites, within Kenya and Somalia is increased at this time. Recent terror attacks within Somalia have included the use of explosives and artillery fire on civilian targets.

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.

No actionable intelligence at this time for the following sectors:

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

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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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domestic or international operations to terrorism***

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