

## PENNSYLVANIA ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN #72

### TARGETED ACTIONABLE MONITORING CENTER

14 APRIL 2010

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### ONGOING RESEARCH

#### **1. 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. (PAIB no. 70)

#### **2. Irish Republican Terror Resurgent**

As of Tuesday morning, 13 April 2010, police in Northern Ireland were investigating a VBIED left near a police station in Newtownhamilton, Armagh. One day earlier, a VBIED was detonated in Holywood, County Down, outside the military barracks where the British intelligence service MI5 has its Northern Ireland headquarters. 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. 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)

### **3. Tax Day Tea Party Events and Anarchist Opposition**

In coordination with a planned mass Tea Party movement rally in Washington, DC on Tax Day, 15 April 2010, hundreds of thousands of movement supporters are expected to hold parallel protests. In response, an anarchist communication includes a call to "crash the tea parties" slated for various locations around the country. The call quickly generated a buzz among both anarchist and Tea Party supporters, with elements of both groups seemingly looking forward to the impending confrontations. Several of these Tea Party events are in Pennsylvania. (PAIB nos. 61, 65 and 67)

### **4. Militarized Anti-Government Movement Seeing Increased Activity**

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. (PAIB nos. 63, 65 and 68)

### **5. Pittsburgh's SDS 'Actionvention'**

An "Actionvention" and the "Pittsburgh Freedom School" (PFS), organized by the far-left, anti-authoritarian Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), is taking place in Pittsburgh. The events will include training, learning and "direct action" focused on "social and environmental justice." Confirmed events on the PFS agenda that may include or generate specific security risks include: 17 April 2010 - protest against unmanned Predator drone aircraft at Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute; a "Nonviolent Direct Action Training" event at Schenley Plaza; and 18 April 2010 - a study session referencing the Marcellus Shale gas drilling project, which was specifically targeted in a communication and training from the Ruckus Working Group, an anarchist organization, late last year. ITRR analysts believe there is a significant risk that the "Actionvention" will draw confrontation-oriented radical elements. (PAIB no. 56)

### **6. Greek Anarchists Upping the Ante**

On Monday, 13 April 2010, a Greek court heard charges against six people the Revolutionary Struggle far-left terrorist group. The accused are being charged with a string of bombings, a rocket attack on the US Embassy in Athens, multiple counts of attempted homicide and arms offenses. The charges come amidst steadily escalating rioting, arson, vandalism and bombings by far-left groups, anarchists and other anti-authoritarian elements. 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. There is also a potential of protests and possible sympathetic violence abroad. (PAIB nos. 36, 38, 59 and 62)

### **7. 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 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)

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

Eco-extremist and anti-capitalist communications of 8 January 2010 and thereafter include explicit calls for sabotage of major facilities and murder. In addition, the Earth First! movement has also taken a turn to advocating more aggressive civil disobedience and sabotage. Anti-coal mining activists and related organizations have recently been increasing training and actions targeting the coal industry and related facilities. ITRR analysts identified several specific 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 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, 61 and 68)

### **9. *The 'Anticapitalathon Games'***

The Anticapitalathon Games, organized by an "anarchist collective", are slated for 23-25 April 2010, coinciding with the annual spring meetings of both the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank (24-25 April 2010) in the US capital. ITRR analysts believe the anarchist organizers appear to be planning mass theft, trespassing, targeted (as well as random) vandalism, and general confrontational rioting. A training seminar was held at the West Chester University Women's Center on 11 April 2010. ITRR analysts are monitoring for ways in which the lessons learned from the training (and the subsequent DC events) will find their way back to future Pennsylvania anarchist activities. (PAIB no. 68)

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

**Sectors:** ENERGY; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

### **10. Nigerian Gov't Issues Alert Over Threat to Oil Facilities**

The Nigerian government, through its military, has issued an alert over expected terrorism targeting Western oil facilities in the Niger Delta region.

The risk of attack was seen by Nigerian officials to be highest at a Niger Delta facility belonging to Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC). However, any foreign organization involved in the oil extraction and supply infrastructure is a potential priority target for regional militants.

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

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

ITRR analysts expect attacks on the foreign petrochemical facilities and oil pipelines in the Niger Delta region to persist, as well as violence against Westerners in many areas of Nigeria. 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.

**Sectors:** COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

### **11. Taunting 'Dirty Bomb' Threat to the World Cup Games in S. Africa**

ITRR researchers have intercepted a jihadist communication including very serious risk indicators regarding the FIFA 2010 World Cup (soccer), to be held in South Africa between 11 June and 11 July 2010. The jihadist addresses his communication to "Obama and his staff", tauntingly implying that Al-Qaeda already has nuclear weapons at its disposal, and that it will deploy them in South Africa during the World Cup games.

The jihadist asks if President Obama thinks the jihadists would allow the US, France, Britain, Israel and Russia "to destroy our homes and to have nuclear weapons" without Al-Qaeda responding "fear for fear"; in other words, by posing an equivalent threat. "Do you think that we do not possess what is necessary now?" the communication asks.

It then proceeds to imply that the US is aware of an attack on a South African nuclear base, Pelindaba, in 2008, which the communication implies was perpetrated by jihadist attackers in order to obtain "sensitive materials".

"None of your security arrangements will be able to discover that which is coming," the jihadist threatens. "The South African people should avoid not only the competition between the US and Britain, but also those of [the nations] that mocked the Prophet Muhammad - Denmark and the Netherlands."

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

T//W Rating: MODERATE

ITRR analysts note that prior jihadist communications provided motivation to target the countries involved in the FIFA World Cup. More broadly, as noted in PAIB no. 56, an Arabic-language communication intercepted by ITRR researchers explicitly notes that "tribes from the forests of... South Africa and [other African states]" are prepared to act on behalf of Osama Bin-Laden. Nonetheless, the newest communication is the first of its kind that implied the intent and capability to use a nuclear 'dirty bomb' of some kind in South Africa.

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. Of particular note is that the aforementioned University of Pennsylvania's Fulbright-Hays Project Abroad is slated to begin 11 June, the same day as the start of the World Cup, and to run through 8 August 2010.

More broadly, as noted in PAIB nos. 42 and 47, 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.

**Sectors:** COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

### ***12. Saudi Threat Alert Points to Old-New Tactic***

A new alert issued by Saudi Arabian security officials regarding a new Al-Qaeda initiative points to a relatively rare terrorist tactic.

According to the Saudi sources, jihadists may disguise themselves as journalists or cameramen in order to hide explosives in camera equipment. This would, they imply, be an effective tactic for attacking senior Saudi and foreign officials who regularly encounter media representatives in public. The Saudi Interior Ministry confirmed the threat to *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* newspaper, adding that journalists must therefore present and maintain their press credentials at all times.

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

T//W Rating: MODERATE

As noted by ITRR analysts, the tactic of detonating IEDs disguised as cameras, and held by suicide bombers disguised as journalists, was famously used by Al-Qaeda in 2001, two days before the 9/11 attacks in the United States. Using their journalistic cover to gain an audience with Ahmad Shah Massoud, leader of the opposition Northern Alliance, two Al-Qaeda terrorists detonated explosives they had concealed in their "camera", killing both Massoud and themselves. The attack was intended to eliminate the head of the anti-Taliban forces.

ITRR analysts see the Saudi alert in the context of recent jihadist communications explicitly targeting British Broadcasting Company facilities and personnel worldwide (see PAIB no. 71). These targets could also be attacked using the journalist disguise tactic mentioned above, in order to obtain access to targeted facilities or to gain the confidence of potential victims.

More generally, ITRR analysts assume that tactical guidance regarding journalist disguises has already been disseminated among Al-Qaeda's global affiliates. Therefore, like other tactical disguises such as police uniforms, the journalist disguise is also likely to appear in use among various terrorist groups. Security personnel are advised to tighten oversight of press credentialing and heighten awareness of unusual behavior patterns, even among journalists attending open public events.

### **Sectors: COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

#### ***13. Pro-/Anti-Gun Groups and Targeted Protests***

An anti-gun protest scheduled for today, 14 April 2010 at 11:00, in Philadelphia is likely to be met with a pro-gun counter-protest. The target is The Shooter Shop at 2001 E. Allegheny Ave., a firearms seller.

Pro-gun activists are treating the event as a "mounting harassment" of "legitimate firearms dealers across the Commonwealth."

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

**T/I/W Rating: LOW-to-MODERATE**

While the above protest and counter-protest are expected to be peaceful and legal in nature, ITRR analysts are alerting Pennsylvania law enforcement personnel to the potential for similar protest/counter-protest events in coming days. Awareness should be heightened specifically in light of the series of Second Amendment events planned for 19 April 2010 (see PAIB no. 64 for more), as well as Pennsylvania's Fifth Annual Right to Keep and Bear Arms (RKBA) Rally at the capitol building in Harrisburg on 27 April.

Potential high-profile targets for anti-gun protest activity include Pennsylvania gun shows this month and next, including:

- 17-18 April 2010 in Greencastle, at the Mason Dixon Auto Auction.
- 17-18 April 2010 in Monroeville, at the Convention Center at 135 Mall Blvd.
- 24-25 April 2010 in Allentown, at the Rodeway Inn.
- 24-25 April 2010 in Washington, at the Washington County fairgrounds.
- 30 April-2 May 2010 in York, at the York Fairgrounds.
- 15-16 May 2010 in Philadelphia (Oaks), at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center.
- 22-23 May 2010 in Philadelphia, at the National Guard grounds.
- 29-30 May 2010 in Bristol, at Kings Caterers (4010 New Falls Rd.)
- 29-30 May 2010 in Wind Gap, at the Plainfield Township Fire Company Social Hall (6480 Sullivan Trail).

**Sectors:** COMMERCIAL FACILITIES; TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS; GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

#### ***14. Jihadists Discuss Booby-Trapping Animals***

ITRR analysts have intercepted new jihadist communications discussing the use of animals as IED delivery systems in targeting embassies, hotels and other public buildings.

Calling the tactic "the next [terrifying] series", the communication calls for the use of "a booby-trapped dog or donkey" in "a strong explosion" targeting an embassy, hotel or other building. Specifically, the jihadist says that "Al-Qaeda in Iraq will take responsibility for that."

In a possibly related open source report, Israeli airport security measures regarding pets have apparently been tightened; although, ITRR analysts note, animals in Israeli terminals and carriers have been regularly been screened in some way. According to open source reports, animals belonging to passengers about whom security personnel have heightened suspicions will be x-rayed under the additional precautionary measures.

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

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

ITRR analysts note that the use of animals as live IED delivery systems is not a new tactic. It has been used in jihadist and other conflicts in the past. Jihadist video clips of the tactic in use have been shared in the past, as well. Additionally, soldiers have found IEDs hidden inside of the carcasses of dead animals. However, ITRR analysts see some significance - limited though it is - in the reappearance of a discussion of this tactic at this time. ITRR researchers will therefore continue monitoring jihadist communications for further indicators that such a tactic is part of a current operational discussion, or is featuring in specific targeting guidance offered by credible jihadist sources.



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

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD  
DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASES  
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

Compiled by NR



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

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