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***CABLE Gram***  
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Publisher, Zhi Hamby-Nye

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CABLE Gram Volume 4 Issue 9

27 February 2007 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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We search the topics and Websites that you request, so it is important for you to provide feedback. We are in our infancy and the CABLE Gram will be as useful as you help make it. Please let us know the topics and keywords that will assist you in your professional endeavors. Send all comments and suggestions to [zhi@cablegram.org](mailto:zhi@cablegram.org) – please type CABLE Gram in the subject line.

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## FEDERAL

### **1. Intelligence Officials Offer Grim Assessment of Security (Washington Post, 27 Feb 2007)**

Top U.S. intelligence officials told a Senate committee today that Iran is likely to develop a nuclear weapon by the early to middle part of the next decade and that security and political trends in Iraq are moving in the wrong direction, with Iraqi leaders facing nearly impossible challenges in curbing sectarian violence that has become "self-sustaining." Delivering the intelligence community's annual threat assessment at a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee, the officials also painted a grim picture of developments in Afghanistan and in the lawless tribal areas of Pakistan near the Afghan

border, where they said a resurgent Taliban is gearing up for a spring offensive and the al-Qaeda terrorist network continues plotting to kill large numbers of Americans.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2tgjcq>

## **2. Thwarting of airline terror plot 'major achievement' (inthenews.com.uk, 27 Feb 2007)**

The United States' director of intelligence, J. Michael McConnell, has named the foiling of an alleged terror plot to blow up transatlantic airliners in mid-air as a "major accomplishment" in the fight against terrorism. Delivering his annual threat assessment to the US Senate's armed services committee, Mr McConnell cited last summer's plot as the chief accomplishment of anti-terror efforts made by western countries. He also included the deaths of "two of al-Qaida's top bomb-makers" in April 2006, the assassination of "Iraq's murderous leader, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi" and the disruption of operations in Iraq by insurgency terror group Ansar al-Sunna in his list of achievements. But Mr McConnell warned that the use of conventional explosives by al-Qaida remained the greatest threat to US security.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/33mlpu>

## **3. U.S., Mexico and Canada Discuss Border Issues (New York Times, 24 Feb 2007)**

American, Mexican and Canadian cabinet ministers met here on Friday to set the agenda for a meeting later this year by the leaders of the three countries, with the discussions taking an increased focus on protecting cross-border trade in the face of increasing border security measures. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez met their Canadian and Mexican counterparts amid concerns that new United States border restrictions - particularly the requirement of passports, beginning in January 2008, for land and sea crossings - would hamper the \$880 billion in annual trade among the countries. No firm agenda emerged for a planned meeting later this year of President Bush, President Felipe Calderón of Mexico and Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/24/world/americas/24canada.html>

## **4. Mexican anger over US 'trespass' (BBC, 23 Feb 2007)**

Mexico's Congress has condemned what it says is a border violation by US workers building a controversial barrier between the two countries. Legislators say workers and equipment building a section of the barrier have gone 10 metres (yards) into Mexico. The alleged border violation comes ahead of a high-level meeting in the Canadian capital Ottawa. US, Mexican and Canadian foreign ministers are to discuss border security and trade issues.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/6390291.stm>

## **5. Immigration Officials Make Another Early-Morning Raid (The Denver Channel, 22 Feb 2007)**

DENVER - Federal agents raided big restaurant chains like the Hard Rock Cafe, ESPN Zone, and Dave and Busters in a national sweep that occurred late Wednesday night and early Thursday morning. The agents fanned out in 63 locations nationwide, including several places in Colorado, grabbing hundreds of illegal aliens working as cleaning people. Investigators said the raids were carried out in 17 states and Washington, D.C. ICE officials said that approximately 220 people were arrested and taken into custody as they started their shifts or ended their shifts at the restaurants where they were working. 7NEWS has learned that 12 people in Colorado were taken in the raid.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/11083315/detail.html>

#### **6. U.S. to Exempt Kids From Passport Rules (AP, 22 Feb 2007)**

Children will be exempt from new rules that will require travelers to show passports when entering the U.S. at land or sea borders, the Bush administration announced on Thursday. The new passport requirements will take effect as soon as January 2008. In a change from earlier plans, children aged 15 or younger with parental consent will be allowed to cross the borders at land and sea entry points with certified copies of their birth certificates rather than passports. Children aged 16 through 18 traveling with school, religious, cultural or athletic groups and under adult supervision will also be allowed to travel with only their birth certificates.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=116&sid=1069144>

#### **7. Going to Canada? Check your past - Visitors with minor criminal records turned back at border (SFGate, 23 Feb 2007)**

There was a time not long ago when a trip across the border from the United States to Canada was accomplished with a wink and a wave of a driver's license. Those days are over. Take the case of 55-year-old Lake Tahoe resident Greg Felsch. Stopped at the border in Vancouver this month at the start of a planned five-day ski trip, he was sent back to the United States because of a DUI conviction seven years ago. Not that he had any idea what was going on when he was told at customs: "Your next stop is immigration." Felsch was ushered into a room. "There must have been 75 people in line," he says. "We were there for three hours. One woman was in tears. A guy was sent back for having a medical marijuana card. I felt like a felon with an ankle bracelet."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/02/23/NEVIUS.TMP>

#### **8. Analysts say anti-terror efforts are not preventing radicalization of recruits (Reuters, 22 Feb 2007)**

The international terrorist threat is increasing as more recruits become radicalized, even though police and intelligence agencies are getting better at disrupting militant plots. That gloomy view appeared to prevail at a major security conference in Brussels this week where participants were asked to complete a "counter-terrorism scorecard" assessing progress over the past year.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17274294/>

### **9. White House drill tests response to IED attack (AP, 25 Feb 2007)**

Dozens of high-level officials joined in a White House drill yesterday to see how the government would respond if several cities were attacked simultaneously by the type of roadside bombs used against American troops in Iraq. White House homeland security adviser Frances Fragos Townsend presided over the three-hour exercise that brought the government's highest-level homeland security officials to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building next to the White House. All Cabinet agencies were represented by their secretaries or other high-ranking officials, with about 90 participants, said Scott Stanzel, a White House spokesman.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/national/20070224-114326-2853r.htm>

### **10. FBI Translating Over 1,000 Wiretap Conversations a Day (US News and World Report, 20 Feb 2007)**

Spurred by adding hundreds of new linguists and help from allies overseas, the FBI is translating a record 34,000 wiretapped conversations a month, bureau officials tell the Bad Guys blog. Long criticized for its lack of language specialists, the FBI, they say, is finally catching up to an unprecedented intake of foreign-language surveillance recordings, electronic data, and text since 9/11. Most of the wiretaps are tied to counterterrorism and counterintelligence cases, officials say. Since 9/11, the FBI's counterterrorism agents, in particular, have collected a mother lode of intelligence. In a widely overlooked report to the Senate Judiciary Committee in November, bureau officials ticked off their counterterrorism take over the past four years: o 519,217 hours of audio o 5,508,217 electronic data files o 1,847,497 pages of text A July 2005 audit by the Justice Department's inspector general found that the bureau's counterterrorism audio backlog had doubled over the preceding year to 8,354 hours. But in their Senate report, FBI officials counter that the backlog represents only 1.35 percent of all the audio collected, and that nearly all of the agency's text and electronic data files have now been translated.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2oogcq>

### **11. DHS Biometric Program in Trouble (WIRED, 26 Feb 2007)**

A House Appropriations subcommittee and congressional investigators are renewing criticism of the US-VISIT program, a Department of Homeland Security initiative to collect and share biometric-fingerprint and facial data from all foreign visitors to the United States. The GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, released a [report](#) (.pdf) this month revealing that, even as development costs settle, US-VISIT's overall price tag is spiraling up "without any accompanying explanation of the reasons," the report said. In an interview with Wired News, Randy Hite, the author of the GAO report, described US-VISIT as a plane flying aimlessly. "We're asking for a pilot to program in a destination," Hite said. "Instead, we have it on autopilot with no destination." US-VISIT collects a digital photo and two digital fingerprints from incoming visitors to the United States, and checks each traveler against scores of government watchlists stored in a hodgepodge of backend databases. The program was launched in January 2004 in an effort to secure the

border from terrorists. The system is at hundreds of airports, seaports and land border crossing across the country, but it is largely a one-way process: missing from the program is a way to verify that a visitor has left the United States, except for a limited pilot program at 12 airports and two seaports where visitors are required to scan their fingerprints on their way out of the country.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wired.com/news/technology/1,72792-0.html>

**12. Legislators propose measure to speed up biodefense program (By Jon Fox, Global Security Newswire, 22 Feb 2007)**

Lawmakers have introduced legislation hoping to improve an effort to develop medical countermeasures for WMD attacks. The bill, introduced in the House this week, is an attempt to address the lagging pace of Project Bioshield, a federal effort that has delivered little since it was launched nearly three years ago. Designed to create an incentive for private enterprise to develop biological countermeasures to unconventional weapons, Bioshield dangles cash in front of biotech firms but gives no money until a product is delivered.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0207/022207gsn1.htm>

**13. DeMint wants ban on felon port workers (AP, 22 Feb 2007)**

CHARLESTON, S.C. - Felon port workers should be banned from secure areas along the nation's docks, Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina said. "No matter how much technology we put at the port, if you've got a few people at the gate when these trucks come in who wave the wrong truck by, we're done," the Republican said Wednesday. "All it takes is some people to overlook something coming off a ship and suddenly we've got a nuclear bomb in the country." DeMint is touting a proposal that would ban docks workers convicted of kidnapping, rape, fraud or dealing drugs within the past seven years. A study found only about 1 percent of current dock workers would be affected.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wilmingtonstar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070222/APN/702222276>

**14. Homeland Security Funding 'Pork' Under Fire (By Fred Lucas, CNSNews.com Staff Writer, 23 Feb 2007)**

In 2005, Kentucky won a \$36,300 grant from the Department of Homeland Security to protect bingo halls from terrorist infiltration, and last year, the federal government granted \$46,908 in homeland security funds to protect a limo and bus service that transports New Yorkers to the affluent Hamptons region in Long Island. In 2004, five days before Christmas, the government announced a \$153 million homeland security grant to provide food and shelter for the homeless, and in the last fiscal year, \$15.7 million in homeland security funds went for enforcement of child labor laws. While spending government money on questionable projects isn't especially unusual in Washington, some government watchdogs and other groups say homeland security money should be off limits for pork barrel spending. "Money spent on these projects is money not spent on something we need," Veronique de Rugy, a research fellow at the

American Enterprise Institute, told Cybercast News Service. The AEI issued a report last year concerning wasteful homeland security spending.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2qv5tb>

## STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

### **15. AZ: Arizona targets bank deposits suspected to be smuggling cash (KVOA Tucson, 24 Feb 2007)**

MESA, Ariz. - Authorities have seized hundreds of thousands of dollars in the past year from bank accounts they allege were being used to funnel payments to human and drug smugglers, the Arizona Attorney General's office confirmed. The seizures are the latest effort by authorities to stem the flow of money to smugglers who have made Phoenix a staging area for their trade. Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard's office has seized millions in Western Union money transfers sent to the state since 2001, and expanded the practice last year to target transfers from other states to Mexico.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=6136622>

### **16. AZ: NRC puts biggest Arizona nuclear power plant on watch (Reuters, 22 Feb 2007)**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Thursday announced it has placed the biggest nuclear power plant in the United States, the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Arizona, under a tighter watch because of a safety violation. The NRC gave APS a "white" finding after its inspection, meaning "low to moderate safety significance." The violation did not create a public safety health risk, the NRC said. The extra scrutiny in the past has cost nuclear power plant operators millions of dollars but Palo Verde's operator and main owner, Arizona Public Service, said it won't be a significant amount for APS.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSN2247368120070222>

### **17. AZ: Airport to debut X-ray detector (East Valley Tribune, 20 Feb 2007)**

A controversial X-ray machine aimed at detecting weapons and explosives hidden on passengers is scheduled to make its national debut Friday, screening US Airways ticket holders at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. Finally. Dubbed "backscatter," the X-ray technology, which was developed for prisons, was expected to start screening Valley air passengers in December. But the launch was postponed while the Transportation Security Administration, the government agency that oversees airport checkpoints, worked out glitches.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/84478>

### **18. FL: Palm Beach County plans to build local anti-terror group (South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 25 Feb 2007)**

They don't carry guns, flash badges or conduct investigations. But store supervisors, hotel general managers and farming executives in Palm Beach County soon will be part of a new campaign to prevent terrorist attacks. Businesspeople this spring will begin forming a nine-member council to learn techniques on spotting plots in the making, and then pass that information on to potentially thousands of workers in their fields. The council members also will receive sensitive police information concerning threats to their industries. Before long, the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office hopes everyone from utility workers to phone operators to truck drivers will be alert to signs that something may be amiss as they drive through neighborhoods, crisscross malls, visit office buildings and pass major traffic intersections.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2jpknf>

**19. FL: No bomb found at Naples post office (The News-Press, 26 Feb 2007)**

A Collier County man was charged today with taking a fake bomb into a Golden Gate post office, which caused the evacuation of the surrounding area and closed two major roads for several hours. Erik Scott Hester, 42, of 540 Platt Road, is being held in the Collier County Jail. No real explosive devices were found by members of the Southwest Florida Regional Bomb Squad. Hester is charged with two felony counts of planting a hoax bomb, one felony count of the false reporting of a hoax bomb and a count of violating his state probation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2ucp8r>

**20. IL: 2 Chicago Cousins Are Charged With Plotting Overseas Attacks (New York Times, 22 Feb 2007)**

Two cousins were arrested here Wednesday on charges of conspiring to commit terrorist acts against American military personnel in Iraq, as well as others abroad, in an Islamic holy war against the United States and its allies. The defendants, Zubair A. Ahmed, 27, and Khaleel Ahmed, 26, were taken into custody at their Chicago homes after a federal grand jury in Cleveland returned a fresh indictment in a pending terrorism case in which three Ohio men are already awaiting trial in Toledo.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/22/us/22indict.html?ref=us>

**21. KS: Sebelius Praises Work of Bio-Defense Facility Task Force (infoZine, 24 Feb 2007)**

Jefferson City, Mo. - Local, state and national leaders convened in Topeka on Thursday for the inaugural meeting of the Kansas National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF) Task Force. The group is responsible for implementing the state's strategic plan to attract the facility to Kansas and during its first meeting it developed a site visit and advocacy strategy as well as a Washington, D.C. outreach effort. Following the meeting, Governor Kathleen Sebelius praised the group's efforts, calling it a great example of the cooperative spirit for which Kansans are known.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/21203/>

**22. LA: Port Fourchon vulnerability could incite terrorists (New Orleans City Business, 26 Feb 2007)**

Harbor Chief of Police Jon Callais wonders how long Port Fourchon will be safe from terrorist attacks. Port Fourchon has no cargo tracking system, no incoming vessel identification, no gates and no way to track roughly 2,000 workers at the 15-square-mile site in Lafourche Parish. The port is a sitting duck despite a 15-person harbor police force, a patrol boat and 17 security cameras, he said. "We don't want to paint a big bull's eye to let the bad guys know we are here but it's true," Callais said. "If they were in here to do something wrong, they are in the right place." The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has added Port Fourchon to a list of ports eligible for \$201 million in security grants. The U.S. Coast Guard's list of most critical ports, including Port Fourchon, was reduced to 72 this year from 101.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.neworleanscitybusiness.com/viewStory.cfm?recID=18269>

**23. MA: Boston Police to Stop Using Pellet Guns (AP, 22 Feb 2007)**

The Boston Police Department is getting rid of the pepper-pellet guns blamed for the death of a college student during Red Sox celebrations more than two years ago. "Never. They'll never again be used in the city of Boston," police Commissioner Edward Davis told the Boston Herald for Thursday's editions. The department's 13 pellet guns, bought before the 2004 Democratic National Convention, will be melted down and recycled into sewer caps.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=2894876>

**24. MO: Depressed student said he had bomb, anthrax (AP, 27 Feb 2007)**

ROLLA, Missouri - A distraught graduate student claiming to have a bomb and anthrax sparked a scare early Tuesday that shut down the University of Missouri-Rolla for several hours, officials said. Nearly two dozen people, including a faculty member and eight other students, were quarantined after a white, powdery substance was found. School officials said "possible bomb materials" were also found when the man was taken into custody. Officials described him as a graduate student who was apparently depressed and upset about his grades.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/02/27/missouri.standoff.ap/index.html>

**25. NV: Pentagon Calls Off Plans For Huge Explosion In Desert (Agence France-Presse, 22 Feb 2007)**

Washington - The Pentagon on Thursday canceled plans to detonate a 700-tonne explosive charge in the Nevada desert that had drawn environmental protests and lawsuits. "I have become convinced that it's time to look at alternative methods that obviate the need for this type of large-scale test," said James Tegnalia, the director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Dubbed "Divine Strake," the test was designed to gather data for use in developing weapons capable of destroying deeply buried bunkers containing chemical, biological or nuclear weapons. It called for detonating 700 tonnes of

conventional explosives over a tunnel at a Nevada test site to study its effect on hard granite structures.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2ldl4b>

**26. NY: New York: Targeted By Tehran? (Newsweek, 5 Mar 2007 Issue)**

Increasing tensions between Washington and Tehran have revived New York Police Department concerns that Iranian agents may already have targeted the city for terror attacks. Such attacks could be aimed at bridges and tunnels, Jewish organizations and Wall Street, NYPD briefers told security execs last fall, according to a person with access to the briefing materials who asked for anonymity because of the sensitive subject matter.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17312636/site/newsweek>

**27. SC: Charleston extending port security network (UPI, 22 Feb 2007)**

The Port of Charleston, S.C., is extending its new container security network to another three terminals, it was announced Thursday. The South Carolina State Ports Authority (SCSPA) signed an agreement to expand the SaviTrak infrastructure that handles RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) data that keeps track of containers and their contents at the Atlantic Coast harbor. "In an era of constant terrorist threats and growing trade, it's vital that we balance commerce with security," Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., said in a news release. "Projects that bolster the Port of Charleston's aggressive port security posture while facilitating cargo flow are exceptionally important."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20070222-024442-8058r>

**28. TX: Port of Houston Authority Commission Approves \$11 Million in Security Projects (Prime Newswire, 26 Feb 2007)**

HOUSTON - The Port Commission of The Port of Houston Authority (PHA) approved \$11 million in security upgrades and other construction projects at its February 26 regular meeting. Chairman Jim Edmonds presided over the meeting with Commissioner Steve Phelps, Commissioner Jim Fonteno, Commissioner Kase Lawal, Commissioner Jimmy Burke, Commissioner Janiece Longoria and Commissioner Elyse Lanier.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.primenewswire.com/newsroom/news.html?d=114489>

**29. TX: Cost of hoax call to 911: \$8,000 for taxpayers (El Paso Times, 22 Feb 2007)**

A prank call to 911 last week from a man claiming to be suicidal and holding a hostage at a house in East El Paso cost taxpayers about \$8,000 in police and fire resources, city officials said Wednesday. The cost reached thousands of dollars because many of the specialized police officers who responded to the call were on overtime, since the call was made shortly after midnight. More than 50 police officers, including SWAT and Crisis Management teams, and five firefighters responded to the call in the 2600 block of Berwick Road. The firefighters were sent to provide medical assistance. "The biggest loss was not so much the money but that we had two units out there for four hours," said Lt.

Mario Hernandez of the El Paso Fire Department. "Those units were kept out of service and unable to respond to other emergencies for four hours."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://origin.elpasotimes.com/news/ci\\_5277373](http://origin.elpasotimes.com/news/ci_5277373)

**30. VA: Senate Approves Red-Light Cameras (Washington Post, 21 Feb 2007)**

RICHMOND, Feb. 20 - The Virginia General Assembly will allow local governments to set up cameras to catch drivers who run red lights, renewing a program that safety advocates say reduces accidents and aggressive driving. The Senate voted 30 to 10 Tuesday to approve a bill that would let towns, cities and counties with populations of 10,000 or more install photo-monitoring systems at intersections with traffic signals. The House has already approved the measure, and Gov. Timothy M. Kaine (D) has said he will sign it.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/3bfana>

**31. VA: Marine Base in Virginia Interferes With Neighbors' Garage Door Openers (AP, 26 Feb 2007)**

QUANTICO, Va. - For many suburbanites, life without garage door openers is unimaginable. But neighbors of the Marine base here have been reduced to just that after a strong radio signal coming from the facility began neutralizing remote-control openers. Residents have had to spend hundreds of dollars on new systems. "I feel there should be some kind of compensation," said Queen Carroll, who is in her early 70s and was forced to buy a new receiver and remote. "I am a struggling widow, if you will, and I praise the Lord I'm still here, but I am on a budget. When things like this come up totally unexpected, it is very upsetting." Repair shops started getting a flurry of calls when the base began using the frequency in late December. Last fall, residents around an Air Force facility in Colorado Springs saw their garage-door remotes stop working when the 21st Space Wing began testing a frequency for use during homeland security emergencies or threats. Two years ago, testing of a similar system in Fort Detrick in Maryland resulted in similar problems.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=2905503>

**32. WA: Three sentenced for smuggling prostitutes (The Seattle Times, 23 Feb 2007)**

Three people involved in smuggling women into the United States and then forcing them into prostitution in brothels across the country were sentenced to prison today, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. A judge in U.S. District Court in Seattle sentenced Yong Jun Kang, 36, of Seattle, to 24 months in prison, and Kesheng Zhu, 38, and his wife, Rujing Jiang, 36, both of Seattle, to 33 months and 24 months in prison, respectively. Kang was accused of conspiring to transport Asian women into the U.S. in shipping containers, according to a news release. Once they arrived they were forced into prostitution. Zhu and Jiang were accused of running a Seattle escort service that was a front for prostitution.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2003586558\\_websmuggling23.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2003586558_websmuggling23.html)

## **KEY PEOPLE**

### **33. FBI Recognizes Presidential Rank Award Recipients (FBI, 23 Feb 2007)**

*Washington, D.C.* – In a ceremony today at FBI Headquarters, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller, and FBI Executive Assistant Director Donald Packham of the Human Resources Branch recognized the recipients of the 2006 Presidential Rank Awards. These awards are given to a very select group of career civil service employees each year and are conferred by the President of the United States and are divided into two categories: the Distinguished Rank Award, awarded for extraordinary results, and the Meritorious Rank Award, given for sustained accomplishment.

“The FBI is proud to recognize 11 FBI employees whose integrity, strength, leadership, and sustained performance have earned them one of the most prestigious honors in government,” said Director Mueller. “Winning the prestigious Presidential Rank Award is an honor not only for these men and women, but for the FBI as a whole, and we are deeply proud of each of them.”

#### **The Presidential Rank of Distinguished Executive was awarded to:**

- T.J. Harrington, Deputy Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division
- Jonathan I. Solomon, Special Agent in Charge of the Miami Field Office

#### **The Presidential Meritorious Rank Executive was awarded to:**

- James Bernazzani, Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Field Office
- Sanjeev “Sonny” Bhagowalia, Program Management Executive, Office of Information Technology Planning and Policy
- Kevin R. Brock, Principal Deputy Director of the National Counterterrorism Center
- Robert E. Casey, Jr., Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Field Office
- Arthur M. Cummings II, Deputy Assistant Director, Counterterrorism Division
- Daniel R. Dzwilewski, Special Agent in Charge of the San Diego Field Office
- Anne Gulyassy, Deputy General Counsel for the Litigation Branch, in the Office of the General Counsel
- Kerry E. Haynes, Executive Assistant Director for the Science and Technology Branch.
- Leslie G. Wiser, Jr., Special Agent in Charge of the Newark Field Office

#### **Recipients of the Presidential Rank of Distinguished Executive Award:**

**T.J. Harrington**, Deputy Assistant Director of the Counterterrorism Division, has overseen some of the FBI’s most critical counterterrorism programs, including the

Counterterrorism Watch Center, the Joint Terrorism Task Forces, the Fly Team, and the Rapid Deployment Teams.

**Jonathan I. Solomon**, currently the Special Agent in Charge of the Miami Field Office, served in a number of critical roles in the Director's office over the past three years, including as Executive Assistant Director (EAD) for Administration. As EAD, Mr. Solomon oversaw all of the Bureau's administrative functions, from budget to hiring to information technology. In his capacity as EAD, he oversaw the development of two critical organizational changes: first, the creation of a separate facility for the FBI's Records Management Division, and second, the creation of the Facilities and Logistics Services Division.

#### **Recipients of the Presidential Meritorious Rank Executive Award:**

**James Bernazzani**, has served as the Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Field Office since April 2005, and has played a critical role in helping the city recover from Hurricane Katrina. His first priority was to locate and provide for FBI employees and their families. He then focused on the safety of the citizens affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and set up command centers to coordinate law enforcement's response. Mr. Bernazzani also foresaw possible crime problems in the aftermath of the hurricane, and helped establish the multi-agency Katrina Fraud Command Center and the multi-agency Violent Crime Intelligence Center. He has provided countless hours of training to local law enforcement and public safety workers dealing with criminal threats.

**Sanjeev "Sonny" Bhagowalia**, who joined the FBI in 1999, currently heads the Office of Information Technology (IT) Planning and Policy. Mr. Bhagowalia co-founded the Trilogy IT Infrastructure Upgrade Program, which brought new computers, software, and secure networks to all FBI employees. He developed a comprehensive IT Governance framework to track every single project, from its cost, to its schedule, to its risk information.

**Kevin R. Brock**, recently retired from the FBI after serving as Principal Deputy Director of the National Counterterrorism Center. Prior to his current job at the NCTC, Mr. Brock served as the Assistant Director for Intelligence in the FBI. Under his leadership, the Directorate of Intelligence grew exponentially and attracted a high-level cadre of intelligence professionals. Mr. Brock also directed a re-engineering of the FBI's informant and asset programs that has strengthened the Bureau's practices with regard to human intelligence.

**Robert E. Casey, Jr.** is currently the Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Field Office. Mr. Casey has distinguished himself as one of the FBI's most influential executives in the development of the FBI's intelligence capability over the past several years. After September 11 th, the FBI was given the mandate to build a world-class intelligence cadre. Mr. Casey was on the ground from the beginning, helping to build the Directorate of Intelligence from just a few employees to more than 400 today. Under his leadership, the number of raw intelligence reports disseminated to our partners increased from under 2

thousand to over 8 thousand reports annually. The FBI's participation in multi-agency fusion centers rose from just a few offices to over 22 offices today.

**Arthur M. Cummings II**, Deputy Assistant Director of the Counterterrorism Division, previously served as the Special Agent in Charge of both the Counterterrorism Division and the Intelligence Branch of the Washington Field Office. In the past five years, Mr. Cummings has played a central role in restructuring the FBI's counterterrorism strategy. While at FBI Headquarters, he created a management structure with teams of agents and analysts, to provide oversight for more than 4,000 counterterrorism investigations. Together, they ensure that each individual investigation is part of the FBI's "big picture" analysis. Mr. Cummings was also instrumental in creating the Directorate of Strategic Operational Planning at the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC). As the Principal Deputy Director of the NCTC, he integrated terrorism information and coordinated counterterrorism activities throughout the federal government.

**Daniel R. Dzwilewski**, is the Special Agent in Charge of the San Diego Field Office. In the past three years, Mr. Dzwilewski has promoted information sharing and cooperation and has increased participation on the San Diego Joint Terrorism Task Force by more than 300 percent. He led the FBI's efforts to increase communication between U.S. and Mexican officials, in order to stop terrorist groups and criminal enterprises from entering the United States. Together, we have identified and dismantled several human trafficking and drug smuggling organizations operating along the Mexican border. In another effort to improve information sharing, Mr. Dzwilewski helped to create the San Diego Regional Intelligence Network – an "alert network" that collects and shares information related to terrorist and criminal activities with law enforcement, other government agencies, and the private sector.

**Anne Gulyassy** is the Deputy General Counsel for the Litigation Branch, in the Office of the General Counsel. Ms. Gulyassy supervises more than 100 employees in the Litigation Branch. She and her staff represent the interests of the Director, other FBI employees, and the FBI itself in civil lawsuits challenging our investigative and intelligence activities. After 9/11, Ann created a new unit to handle the spike in the number of Freedom of Information cases. She also found and put into place an automated system for redacting all documents produced in civil litigation cases, to ease the burden on her paralegal staff.

**Kerry E. Haynes** is currently the Executive Assistant Director for the Science and Technology Branch. Three years ago, Director Mueller appointed Mr. Haynes as the Assistant Director for the Operational Technology Division. At that time, Kerry was detailed to the FBI from the CIA, where he had worked for nearly 25 years. In August 2005, Mr. Haynes retired from the CIA, and immediately joined the FBI. He reinvented the Operational Technology Division to meet the challenges of the FBI's new intelligence mission. He has cultivated key alliances with many of our partners in both the intelligence and high-tech communities, to the benefit of the Bureau. Mr. Haynes also expanded the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory, or RCFL, program. RCFLs provide one-stop shopping for the examination of digital forensic evidence in terrorism,

child pornography, and financial crimes cases, among others. During his tenure, the FBI has doubled the number of RCFLs from 5 to 10, in less than three years.

**Leslie G. Wiser, Jr.** recently retired from the FBI after serving as the Special Agent in Charge of the Newark Field Office. Mr. Wiser greatly increased state and local participation on the New Jersey Joint Terrorism Task Force; he emphasized the importance of sharing information and intelligence among agencies and investigators. Today, New Jersey law enforcement and intelligence officials share information and work cases together, thanks in large part to Mr. Wiser's diligence and dedication. He has made great inroads with the Newark community. He has worked with other government agencies to create and open dialogue with Egyptian-American and Muslim community leaders and Muslim youth, to create a greater understanding between their communities and the work of the FBI. In Newark, Mr. Wiser and his staff have established well-deserved reputations as the "go to" people for high-profile investigations involving public corruption, transnational organized crime, and corporate fraud.

**34. Janice K. Fedarcyk Named Sac In Los Angeles (Media Newswire, 23 Feb 2007)**

Washington, D.C. - Janice K. Fedarcyk, a 19-year veteran of the FBI, has been named as the Special Agent in-Charge (SAC) of the Counterterrorism Division of the FBI's Los Angeles Office. Director Robert S. Mueller III appointed her to this position earlier this month. In her new role, SAC Fedarcyk will lead a diverse team of professionals assigned to fighting domestic and international terrorism in one of the FBI's largest offices. She is replacing Warren T. Bamford who was recently appointed as SAC of the FBI's Boston office.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://media-newswire.com/release\\_1044217.html](http://media-newswire.com/release_1044217.html)

## **GANG ACTIVITY**

**35. MN: Unruly writing on the wall (Star Tribune, 23 Feb 2007)**

South Minneapolis neighborhoods are losing the war against graffiti. But they haven't given up. Paul Kjornes never bothered to decipher the graffiti spray-painted periodically on the wall of his bowling alley. Then came the gunshots. Ten to 15 rounds shot into the frigid January air, and tires screeched from a dark alley behind Nokomis Lanes in south Minneapolis. "Now I want to know what these letters mean," Kjornes said on a recent afternoon, as he painted over a new batch of graffiti. "Am I standing here in the middle of a territorial gang war? I don't want to pull up here one day and have a bowler lying here in the parking lot, shot to death."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.startribune.com/535/story/1022521.html>

**36. Haiti: UN pushes on with anti-gang crackdown; 59 suspects arrested so far (UN News Centre, 23 Feb 2007)**

United Nations peacekeepers in Haiti have arrested 59 suspected gangsters since they launched a crack-down on armed gangs at the beginning of the month in one of the violence-ridden country's most dangerous areas, the Cité Soleil quarter of Port-au-Prince,

the capital. As a result of the clean-up sweeps, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti ([MINUSTAH](#)) earlier this week was able to use the sports field in the Bélékou area of Cité Soleil to deliver 5,000 litres of drinking water, 700 meals and medical and dental care to local residents. “We will continue these operations for a better future and for bringing security to the territory of the country, which will allow significant progress and lead to a stable society,” MINUSTAH military spokesperson Major Laurie Arellano told a news conference in Port-au-Prince yesterday.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=21659&Cr=haiti&Cr1>

## **NARCO TRAFFICKING**

### **37. AZ: CPB busts 9 in separate drug-smuggling cases (Nogales International, 23 Feb 2007)**

During a busy Presidents' Day weekend, U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers at ports of entry in Nogales stopped nine attempts to smuggle narcotics into the United States. Nine people were arrested and more than 300 pounds of illicit drugs were seized.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2007/02/24/news/news6.txt>

### **38. CA: Border patrol agents confiscate more than \$2.1 million in cocaine (The Desert Sun, 22 Feb 2007)**

United States Customs and Border Protection border patrol agents confiscated more than \$2.1 million in cocaine today at a Highway 111 checkpoint, south of Indio. Agents found the cocaine in a 1989 Toyota Camry station wagon that entered the inspection area at about 9 a.m. A K-9 detected the drugs near the vehicle's rear seats, where a hidden compartment was found, according to a customs and border protection news release.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thedesertsun.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070222/UPDATE/70222023>

### **39. DC: Colombians convicted on drug charges (Washington Times, 22 Feb 2007)**

A high-ranking female member of a left-wing Colombian terrorist organization has been convicted with two others in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia on drug charges. Deputy Attorney General Paul J. McNulty said Nayibe Rojas Valderama, also known as "Sonia," was convicted, along with co-defendants Jose Antonio Celis and Juan Diego Giraldo, on charges of conspiring to import cocaine into the United States and conspiring to manufacture and distribute cocaine - knowing it would be unlawfully imported into the United States. The convictions were handed down Tuesday by a federal jury after four days of deliberation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/national/20070221-105203-3052r.htm>

### **40. MD: Cocaine distributor sentenced on drug, money laundering charges (AP, 21 Feb 2007)**

GREENBELT, Md. - Federal prosecutors say a 34-year-old Upper Marlboro man was sentenced today for cocaine distribution and buying multiple homes to launder drug

money. Federal prosecutors say Steven Fenwick pleaded guilty to distributing large quantities of crack cocaine and cocaine. He also used drug proceeds, prosecutors say, to buy homes in Forestville, Oxon Hill and Fairmont Heights. According to prosecutors, the amount of laundered money totals more than 400-thousand dollars.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wmdt.com/wires/displaystory.asp?id=58863133>

**41. MD: Teacher charged with cocaine distribution (The Sentinel, 22 Feb 2007)**

Police charged a Rockville middle-school teacher last Thursday with distributing cocaine after she was involved in a drug sale with an undercover officer. Erin J. Marks, 26, of Germantown, was arrested Feb. 15 and charged with cocaine distribution after police performed an undercover drug buy from her and her roommate, Ronald T. Dwyer II, last November. Marks, who is a teacher at Robert Frost Middle School in Rockville, has been placed on administrative leave by the school system. Police say there is no evidence that she distributed drugs to students. "We don't have any reason to think that she was selling drugs in school," said Montgomery County police spokesman Lt. Eric Burnett. On Nov. 27, police arranged an undercover drug buy with Dwyer after receiving an anonymous tip that he was dealing cocaine in the county. Dwyer arrived at a predetermined location for the buy with a woman, later identified as Marks. Dwyer provided cocaine to an undercover officer and instructed the officer to give cash to Marks.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thesentinel.com/307407952787650.php>

**42. MO: Police arrest two Sikeston residents in crack cocaine bust Friday (Southeast Missourian, 27 Feb 2007)**

SIKESTON, Mo. - Sikeston Department of Public Safety officers confiscated about \$700,000 worth of crack cocaine in two residences Friday and arrested two people Saturday in connection with the bust. Capt. Mark Crocker said Monday the arrests and drug bust came after a two-week investigation by the department's Special Operations Group and detectives. In custody are Tomicka S. Davis, 29, and Robert Jones, 31, both of Sikeston.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.semissourian.com/story/1191381.html>

**43. OR: Man guilty in drug smuggling (The Oregonian, 21 Feb 2007)**

A Mexican national whose drug-smuggling operation featured women hiding cocaine and methamphetamine in back braces was convicted Tuesday after being returned to Oregon. Santiago Goicochea-Diaz, 38, pleaded guilty of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and cocaine, according to the U.S. attorney's office in Oregon. He agreed to cooperate with prosecutors' request for a 20-year prison sentence in exchange for dismissal of money-laundering and other drug distribution counts.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/39ozjv>

**44. VT: Man caught smuggling drugs in laundry bag (WCAX, 25 Feb 2007)**

FISHKILL PLAINS, N.Y. A Poughkeepsie-area man was arrested this week when he was caught with a very expensive load of laundry. Police say 32-year-old Michael Pellizzari was arrested after he was found with 10-thousand dollars of marijuana in a laundry bag in the trunk of his car Friday. The East Fishkill man was stopped by police for traffic violations, and the more than three pounds of marijuana were found during a search of the vehicle.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=6138414&nav=4QcS>

**45. Canada: 171 kilograms of cocaine seized at Windsor border crossing (CNW Group, 22 Feb 2007)**

WINDSOR, ON - The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced yesterday that officers at the Ambassador Bridge seized approximately 171 kilograms of suspected cocaine, with an estimated street value of \$21 million. One of the largest amounts of cocaine seized at a land border crossing in Canada. CBSA officers uncovered the drugs on February 19, 2007, during the routine examination of a tractor-trailer of fresh mixed produce from California. A total of 7 duffle bags and 1 suitcase, containing a total of 109 bricks of cocaine were found within the load.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/February2007/22/c3428.html>

**46. Colombia: Cali cartel insider helped bring down cocaine empire (Los Angeles Times, 24 Feb 2007)**

MIAMI — The official end of the Cali cocaine cartel came in 2006 here with little more than the rap of a judge's gavel. Colombian drug lords Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela, 63, and Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, 67, entered guilty pleas and were ushered to federal prison for the next 30 years — no *Miami Vice* dramatics, no bodies riddled with gunfire. But behind the fall of the ruthless Orejuela brothers and collapse of their \$7 billion-a-year empire lies a story of daring and betrayal. Aiding U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agents unexpectedly and at great risk was a senior Cali cartel official, the head of security for the cocaine syndicate.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/world/4579795.html>

**47. Colombia: Where cocaine is king: the land of contraband that drives UK's trade (New Scotsman, 26 Feb 2007)**

CUCUTA is the contraband capital of Colombia, where powerful criminal syndicates own the local government and patrol the slums, acting as sheriff in this frontier town. It is also the departure point for most of the cocaine that lands on British shores. There is not even a pretence of legality in Cucuta. Along the border there is a staggering concentration of old American jalopies, and contraband petrol is sold openly along the highways. "They have massive fuel tanks, the American cars," muttered Orlando, sucking on his last remaining teeth. "You see, petrol on the Venezuelan side costs about 400 pesos [less than 10p] a gallon; over here we can sell it for eight times that," he said, tapping the jerrican he was sitting on, a cigarette nonchalantly pasted to his bottom lip. "Some people spend their days driving across the border, filling up, then coming back and siphoning off the

tanks." But this is just the low-level contraband that sustains many in this city of 600,000. The real money is in cocaine, and British and United States authorities estimate that as much as 300 tonnes a year passes through Cucuta, most on its way to Europe and the booming UK market.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.scotsman.com/international.cfm?id=301262007>

**48. Venezuela: Confiscate Cocaine in Venezuela (Prensa Latina, 25 Feb 2007)**

Caracas - Venezuelan authorities announced on Sunday the confiscation of 337 Kg of cocaine in an operation carried out in Puerto Cabello, in the northeast of the country. The general Omar Halay said in a press conference that the occupation took place on Saturday in a ship after an intelligence operation detected smugglers by Internet. Although Venezuela does not produce drugs, the country is victim of the phenomenon due to the use of the territory as intermediary to load narcotics to US, the most illegal market of the world, and Europe.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/3d9w3c>

**49. Ecuador: 60 kg of cocaine found in banana vessel (Fresh Plaza, 26 Feb 2007)**

Tholen - The Ecuadorian army has confiscated 60 kg of cocaine on a banana vessel sailing under the flag of the Bahamas, which was loaded in the port of Puerto Bolívar. The illegal cargo was discovered in an export container of the shipping line Transmabo. The vessel was destined for the German port of Hamburg. The vessel was confiscated and will be further investigated by army and police to determine whether any more drugs are present in other containers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.freshplaza.com/2007/0226/1-2\\_ec\\_cocaine.htm](http://www.freshplaza.com/2007/0226/1-2_ec_cocaine.htm)

**50. Spain: Cocaine trafficking gang seized (thinkSPAIN, 23 Feb 2007)**

Nine individuals aged between 23-45 were arrested yesterday during simultaneous raids on seven properties in the town of Totana and a large quantity of a variety of recreational drugs with a street value of around €80,000 was seized. According to a Guardia Civil spokesman, drugs trafficking aside, the gang is also accused of kidnapping, injuring and threatening members of rival drug-dealing gangs as well as disguising themselves as Local Police officers when out peddling their wares.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thinkspain.com/news-spain/12671>

**51. Italy: 400 kg of cocaine hidden under rotten bananas (Fresh Plaza, 26 Feb 2007)**

Rome – Customs and police officers have found 400 kg of cocaine in Salerno's harbour. Cocaine was hidden in a container, within a cargo of rotten bananas in order to make inspections with dogs more difficult. This cocaine seizure is one of the first successes in the context of a monitoring program on all cargos arriving from South America.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.freshplaza.com/2007/0226/1-3\\_it\\_cocaine.htm](http://www.freshplaza.com/2007/0226/1-3_it_cocaine.htm)

**52. Ghana: Narcotic Control Board in Disarray After Massive Cocaine Scandal (Ghanian Chronicle, 21 Feb 2007)**

The nation's anti-narcotic security establishment, the Narcotic Control Board (NACOB) is currently enveloped by controversial developments that have left security experts raising concerns about the possible devastating consequences of such developments on the effective combat against the drug menace that has engulfed the nation. The Chronicle can report that, as at now, the institution has no duly constituted Board and since May last year the Board that used to be Chaired by Deputy Interior Minister, Mr. Kwaku Agyeman Manu, has never met, not even in the face of the massive cocaine mess that hit the country in the second half of last year and which the nation is yet to find solutions to.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200702210940.html>

**53. Cocaine seized at Hong Kong airport, man charged with trafficking (Asia World, 22 Feb 2007)**

Hong Kong - A 55-year-old man carrying cocaine with a street value of 300,000 US dollars in a suitcase has been arrested at Hong Kong airport, police said Thursday. The man was intercepted at the arrivals gate Wednesday by officers from the Narcotics Bureau. He was found to be carrying six slabs of suspected cocaine weighing a total of 2.75 kilograms hidden inside a false compartment of the suitcase.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/33217.html>

**CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

**54. House to examine insecure TSA Web site (UPI, 26 Feb 2007)**

WASHINGTON - A House panel is investigating claims that a Web site collecting sensitive information for the U.S. Transportation Security Administration is insecure. Chairman Henry A. Waxman, D-Calif., of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, sent a letter to the TSA requesting documents to explain why a Web site to collect sensitive information from travelers lacked basic security measures. The letter was sent to Edmund Hawley, the Assistant Secretary of the TSA, on Friday. The Web site was intended to serve travelers who claimed that their names were erroneously placed on the U.S. "no-fly" list. The TSA claimed to be addressing reports that some individuals have been misidentified, and as a result were questioned, detained or barred from boarding a plane. The TSA's Traveler Verification Identity Program Web site asked travelers to submit personal information, such as their Social Security number, date of birth, height, weight, and eye color.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/38z4kj>

**55. Glitch Hits Dow Average But Prices Are Not Affected (Reuters, 27 Feb 2007)**

A technical glitch hit the system that calculates the Dow Jones industrial average on Tuesday, but it did not affect stock prices, a spokeswoman for Dow Jones Indexes said. With an hour left to trade, the Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 500 points as it abruptly added about 200 points to its slide in late afternoon trade. "At around 2 p.m.

we realized extraordinarily heavy volume coming in and that caused a delay in the Dow Jones data system," said Sybille Reitz. "As a result the calculation of the Dow average temporarily lagged behind the market decline. We then switched over to a backup system, which resulted in a rapid catch up in the published value of the Dow," she said. Reitz added that at no point did the swing in the index affect stock prices. "The calculation is absolutely correct, we just had a delay in the output." The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended down 416 points, erasing all of this year's gains.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnbc.com/id/17369561>

#### **56. Scientists make quantum encryption breakthrough (ITPro, 20 Feb 2007)**

Researchers have managed to close a loophole in quantum cryptography that could allow a hacker to determine a secret key transmitted using the technology. Working at Toshiba Research Europe in Cambridge, scientists found that laser diodes used to transmit keys used to encrypt data, known as Quantum Key Distribution (QKD), sometimes transmitted more than one photon at a time. Quantum encryption works by transmitting key data as a stream of single photons. Should an eavesdropper try to intercept the transmission, monitoring a single photon would change the state of that photon, and this would make both ends of the transmission aware that the data had been eavesdropped. However, the laser diodes can sometimes transmit more than one photon and so a hacker could monitor the second photon, leaving the first photon unchanged and this would not alert anyone that the key transmission had been compromised.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/3d7mfc>

#### **57. SWIFT sides with US in data spat with EU: Safe Harbor - safe from storm? (The Register, 24 Feb 2007)**

The Belgian firm stuck in the middle of a transatlantic spat over the US infringement of civil liberties by the agents of its war on terror is throwing its lot in with the Americans. In open defiance of European privacy officials, the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (Swift), has declared that it has applied to the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) for 'safe harbour' protection for the data it holds on US soil. Swift had handed data containing the details of private international financial transactions to US terrorist finance investigators under a secret arrangement since late 2001. Since the transfers came to light last June, Europe's data protection authorities have declared that Swift is a data controller and, as such, it should take responsibility for the privacy of the data it administers for its banking clients.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/02/24/swift\\_safe\\_harbour/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/02/24/swift_safe_harbour/)

#### **58. Think Your Social Security Number Is Secure? Think Again (New York Times, 24 Feb 2007)**

It should come as little surprise that Social Security numbers are posted on the Internet. But, says Betty Ostergren, a former insurance claims supervisor in suburban Richmond, Va., who has spent years trolling for them, "people are always astounded" to learn that theirs is one of them. Mrs. Ostergren, 57, has made a name for herself as a gadfly as she

took on a lonely and sometimes frustrating mission to draw attention to the situation. With addresses, dates of birth and maiden names often associated with Social Security numbers, she said, they are a gift to data thieves. But in the last few weeks, Mrs. Ostergren's Web site, The Virginia Watchdog — with the help of lobbying from an unexpected ally, America's farm bureaus — is having an effect. One by one, states and counties have started removing images of documents that contain Social Security numbers, or they are blocking out the numbers. Four states, including New York, have removed links to images of public documents containing Social Security numbers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/24/business/24money.html?pagewanted=print>

### **59. Stop & Shop reports credit data was stolen - Card readers reveal tampering (Boston Globe, 19 Feb 2007)**

SEEKONK - With help from US Secret Service agents, Stop & Shop Supermarket Cos. executives scrambled yesterday to determine how many consumers may have had their credit and debit card data stolen by high-tech thieves who apparently broke into checkout-line card readers and planted the equivalent of bugs to steal information. Stop & Shop said customer information, including personal identification codes for cards, was confirmed stolen from supermarkets in Coventry and Cranston, R.I. The company said it had found evidence that card readers were tampered with in a similar way at four other stores in Seekonk and in Bristol, Providence, and Warwick, R.I. But the supermarket company said it had no reports of illegal transactions on cards that had been used at those stores.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/3a7ovt>

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **60. Boeing to fight jamming (CNNMoney.com, 26 Feb 2007)**

NEW YORK - Boeing Co. is offering to install advanced antijamming technology on some future commercial satellites for the first time as protection against terrorists and hostile governments, the *Wall Street Journal* reported. The aerospace firm's effort to provide antennas, which military and spy satellites currently use, to prevent jamming is being supported by the industry and the Pentagon, the *Journal* said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/34xjsz>

### **61. New Airport X-Rays Scan Bodies, Not Just Bags (New York Times, 24 Feb 2007)**

X-ray vision has come to the airport checkpoint here, courtesy of federal aviation security officials who have installed a new device that peeks underneath passengers' clothing to search for guns, bombs or liquid explosives. The X-ray image before software was used to blur bodily contours. The new body scanning machine, which went into use on Friday at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and will be tested later at airports in Los Angeles and New York, will screen only volunteers, at least initially. Transportation Security Administration officials want to make sure the machine is reliable and fast enough to replace the traditional pat-down - and that it does not provoke too many

protests. Security officials examining the head-to-toe images work in a closed booth, hidden from public view, agency officials said. Special "privacy" software intentionally blurs the image, creating an outline of a body that is clear enough to see a collarbone, bellybutton or weapon, but flattens details of revealing contours.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/24/us/24scan.html?th&emc=th>

**62. SAIC Wins Defense Department Contract Worth Up To \$930 Million (Information Week, 27 Feb 2007)**

Science Applications International Corp. said it has secured a deal to provide integration and testing services to the Department of Defense under a contract worth up to \$930 million. The deal was announced Monday. Under the indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contract, SAIC will provide the department's Joint Test and Evaluation Program Office with a range of technical services, including integration of IT systems, performance monitoring, and validation of testing methods. The contract has a five-year base period worth \$465 million, with up to five one-year extension periods renewable at \$93 million per year. The Defense Department's Joint Test and Evaluation Program Office conducts operational tests of military equipment on behalf of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.informationweek.com/outsourcing/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=197009039>

**63. Security cameras are being developed to watch the world and interpret what they see (AP, 25 Feb 2007)**

COLLEGE PARK, Md. – The next time you walk by a shop window, take a glance at your reflection. How much do you swing your arms? Is the weight of your bag causing you to hunch over? Do you still have a bit of that 1970s disco strut left? Look around – You might not be the only one watching. The never-blinking surveillance cameras, rapidly becoming a part of daily life in public and even private places, may be sizing you up as well. And they may soon get a lot smarter. Researchers and security companies are developing cameras that not only watch the world but also interpret what they see. Soon, some cameras may be able to find unattended bags at airports, guess your height or analyze the way you walk to see if you are hiding something. Most of the cameras widely used today are used as forensic tools to identify crooks after-the-fact. (Think grainy video on local TV news of convenience store robberies gone wrong.) But the latest breed, known as "intelligent video," could transform cameras from passive observers to eyes with brains, able to detect suspicious behavior and potentially prevent crime before it occurs.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/tech/20070225-1030-smartsurveillance.html>

**RESOURCES**

**64. "Terrorist Capabilities for Cyberattack: Overview and Policy Issues," Congressional Research Service Report updated January 22, 2007**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/terror/RL33123.pdf>

**65. "Pipeline Safety and Security: Federal Programs," Congressional Research Service Report updated January 25, 2007**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/RL33347.pdf>

**66. "Foreign Science and Engineering Presence in U.S. Institutions and the Labor Force," Congressional Research Service Report updated January 12, 2007**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/97-746.pdf>

## **EVENTS**

**67. NYSSA Presents 4th Annual Homeland Security Conference (Business Wire, 27 Feb 2007)**

NEW YORK - The New York Society of Security Analysts (NYSSA) will present the 4th Annual Homeland Security Conference on March 13, 2007. With spending levels climbing across the board, many believe that the defense industry will continue to thrive. In addition, corporate America is investing billions of dollars in more sophisticated tools to protect the nation's homes, food supply, data, products, and people. Learn more about the technologies leading the way in this new era of security, and the companies pioneering them.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/34tpoj>

## **FULL REPORTS**

**68. Coast Guard Mission Soars to New Heights (Cape May County Herald, 24 Feb 2007)**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A helicopter, flying low and fast over the nation's capital, changes its direction with surgical precision. The crew aboard scan's the skies for their target. They are in pursuit of an aircraft that has entered the restricted airspace over Washington, D.C. Their mission: interception. Although it may sound like a scene from a movie, it is in fact just another day on the job for crewmembers from Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City, N.J., who have recently been tasked with conducting the Coast Guard's National Capital Region (NCR) air defense mission. The bright orange colored helicopters that are so common to coastal community residents and beachgoers across the nation are now becoming a familiar sight in the skies over D.C. In a small ceremony held on Sept. 25, 2006, the Coast Guard officially assumed responsibility for the Rotary Wing Air Intercept (RWAI) mission from Customs and Border Protection.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/37bxlu>

**69. United States Seeks Global Harmonization of Air Traffic Control - Federal Aviation Administration pursues cooperation with Europe, China, India (By Andrzej Zwanecki, USINFO Staff Writer, 23 Feb 2007)**

Washington - Air traffic management systems of the near future must ensure that aircraft moving around the world do so safely and with few delays as air transportation continues to grow, says the head of the U.S. civil aviation regulator.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Administrator Marion Blakey said February 20 that air traffic in the United States and other developed markets is at the “saturation point” and skies are likely to get only busier with projected increases in air travel.

In an address to the Royal Aeronautical Society in London, she said the United States and the European Union (EU), the two largest air transportation markets in the world, are trying to meet the challenge by developing their own advanced air traffic management systems – the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) and the Single European Sky Air Traffic Management Research (SESAR) program.

Blakey said, however, that unless the two parties move in harmony, making sure that these systems are interoperable, management of international air traffic is unlikely to measure up to the growing needs of civil aviation.

“If NextGen and SESAR aren’t compatible, ... we’ve taken a step forward technologically, but taken a step back strategically,” she said.

In 2006, the Bush administration and the European Commission signed an agreement to cooperate and collaborate on developing the systems.

Blakey said she hopes that later in 2007 the two sides will announce several joint projects to further harmonization.

#### CHINA, INDIA

Integrating China and India with global air traffic systems is also important for making international air travel safe and trouble-free, she said, as the two countries experience an explosive growth in domestic air travel.

Blakey said the growth of China’s domestic air travel market – at about 8 percent per year – is hampered by a lack of sufficient infrastructure and a complex web of airspace restrictions. The Chinese have tried to catch up with the growth by beginning construction of more than 30 major airports in recent years and by pushing their military to relinquish some of the approximately 80 percent of Chinese airspace it controls.

The FAA administrator said her agency is doing as much as possible to help China improve its air traffic systems through technical assistance and training. (See [related article](#).)

The United States also is working with the Chinese to help them understand the benefits of emerging technologies and automated and integrated air traffic systems, Blakey said.

Another U.S. official, Assistant Secretary of Transportation Andrew Steinberg, told *USINFO* that China, with its relatively undeveloped infrastructure, has an opportunity to jump directly to satellite-based air traffic systems, passing more developed countries that continue to rely on ground-based systems.

Blakey said her agency would like to use the experience it has gained in China to craft an aviation cooperation program with India, another rapidly developing aviation market.

“We are counting on a long-term relationship with India to work with them to grow their aviation system,” she said.

Blakey said the first U.S.-India Partnership Summit, scheduled for April 23-25 in New Delhi, will provide an opportunity to discuss the most important issues related to bilateral cooperation such as airport development and construction and air traffic management.

India already has asked for U.S. assistance in implementing more advanced navigation and training for its air controllers. The United States has offered to assist with the certification of India’s own satellite-based navigational system. (See [related article](#).)

In March, the two countries are scheduled to begin discussions on a bilateral aviation safety agreement, which would allow the U.S. regulators to accept Indian airworthiness certification on some aviation and aerospace products. The FAA must certify aircraft and aerospace products before they can be used or operated in the United States. Under bilateral agreements with some countries, the agency accepts certifications issued by these countries’ authorities.

[Additional information](#) on the U.S.-India Partnership Summit is available on the Web site of the American Association of Airport Executives.

A [transcript](#) of Blakey’s remarks can be viewed on the FAA Web site.

(USINFO is produced by the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

**70. Global Task Force Combats Internet Child-Sex Predators (By Jane Morse, USINFO Staff Writer, 23 Feb 2007)**

Washington - “The Internet is a great place for children to learn, have fun and communicate with their peers. But where children go, the child sex predators will follow,” says Jim Gamble, chairman of the Virtual Global Task Force (VGT) and chairman of the United Kingdom’s Child Exploitation and Online Protection Center (CEOP).

On February 21-22, law enforcement officials from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia met in Washington at a VGT conference to explore new ways to combat online pedophiles.

Created in 2003, the VGT is an international partnership of law enforcement agencies cooperating to fight online child abuse. In addition to CEOP, task force members include U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ICE, the Australian High Tech Crime Centre, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Interpol. The first VGT conference was held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in November 2005.

According to Julie Myers, assistant secretary for ICE, “Given the transnational reach of crimes against children, it is more important than ever to have law enforcement agencies across the globe integrate their efforts and pool their resources. The VGT is an innovative response to the globalization of the threat to children.”

#### INNOVATIVE TELEVISION AD AIMS TO EDUCATE

At the Washington conference, VGT’s first commercial was launched, an ad intended to educate children and adults about the need for Internet safety. The 60-second ad emphasizes the global nature of the Internet and that people online are not always who they say they are.

According to VGT, the ad represents the first time different law enforcement agencies from around the world have worked together to produce an awareness-raising campaign. The public service advertisement is expected to have a potential audience of 450 million people across three continents.

In the United Kingdom and Australia, a public awareness campaign already has been launched under the name “thinkuknow.” So far it has produced a 1000 percent increase in reports of predatory online behavior to British police via the CEOP Center, VGT says. Seventy-seven sex offenders have been arrested since the 2006 launch of CEOP, which is dedicated to tackling child sex abuse.

“Children have the right to enjoy the virtual world free from predators,” Gamble said. “Now they can. They can walk into our virtual police environment and make a report to our combined effort and we will take immediate action.

#### PROVIDING A 24/7 RESPONSE

A 24/7 (24 hours a day; seven days a week) watch-system concept was launched by the United Kingdom and Australia in 2005 and adopted in the United States in November 2006.

Under the 24/7 watch system, agencies of VGT member nations rotate shifts as the “on-call Internet police officer” for a portion of each day. Investigators have real-time access

to one another to respond to immediate threats, no matter where the alleged violation is taking place. This watch system already has produced successes.

In one case, information provided in a chat room and reported to U.S. authorities indicated that a man living in England planned to molest his children within the next few hours. Investigators in both countries took immediate action working through a team comprised of ICE, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the CEOP Center and local British police.

Within 120 minutes of the first report, local police officers were at the individual's door. Their resulting investigation uncovered images of child pornography and the individual was arrested.

In the United States, Internet users can report suspicious online activity via the Cyber Tipline on the Web site for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. On this Web site, U.S. users can report to VGT suspected danger to a child using the Internet and located in Australia, Canada or the United Kingdom.

#### UNDERSTANDING THE BREADTH OF THE PROBLEM

Speakers at the Washington VGT conference emphasized the powerful reach of the Internet. According to Ethel Quayle, director for the COPINE (Combating Paedophile Information Networks in Europe) Project at the University College Cork, Ireland, the Internet serves to "normalize" behavior that previously was not considered normal, such as pedophilia.

Quayle urged parents to make greater efforts to understanding the Internet and their children's online activities. Adults, she explained, "visit" the Internet; children "live in it."

According to Gamble, groups like the VGT are "recognizing the global dimension of the Internet and delivering a worldwide virtual police presence."

"For the child," Gamble said, "that means they have somewhere to go without being bullied by sex offenders. For parents, that means they have increased peace of mind. For the sex offender, it means be aware, because the child you may be looking to 'groom' tonight could well be a few clicks away from putting your activities into our hands."

[More information](#) on the Virtual Global Task Force is available on its Web site.

(USINFO is produced by the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

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