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***CABLE Gram***  
Collecting and Broadcasting for Law Enforcement  
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Publisher, Zhi Hamby-Nye

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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 28

9 May 2006 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

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- 59. "High Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (HEMP) and High Power Microwave (HPM) Devices: Threat Assessments," Congressional Research Service report updated April 14, 2006 (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation on American Scientists)
- 60. "Direct Assaults Against Presidents, Presidents-Elect, and Candidates," Congressional Research Service report updated April 5, 2006 (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation on American Scientists)

#### FULL REPORTS

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64. U.S. Health Agency Awards \$1 Billion to Prepare for Pandemic (By Cheryl Pellerin, Washington File Staff Writer, 5 May 2006)

Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor  
Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor  
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The CABLE Gram is a weekly publication, distributed in PDF format and is currently included as a benefit of membership in the OPSEC Professionals Society and the National Military Intelligence Association.

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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.

Please forward the CABLE Gram to all people you feel will find it useful!

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## **FEDERAL**

### **1. FBI can't retain its experts on terror - Since 9/11 attack, private enterprise's lucrative offers have drained top talent (Houston Chronicle, 4 May 2006)**

WASHINGTON - Gary Bald was praised by his FBI bosses as an outstanding choice when he was named the bureau's top counterterrorism executive in 2005. But after only eight months as the National Security Service director, he is leaving the FBI to take a security job with a cruise line. Bald's replacement when he departs in June will be the sixth person to occupy the top post since Sept. 11, 2001, gave terrorism new meaning. His exit is part of a growing trend at the FBI, where top officials have been leaving at a pace that alarms members of Congress.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/nation/3842122.html>

### **2. Military plans quicker hurricane response (USA Today, 5 May 2006)**

COLORADO SPRINGS — The Pentagon's homeland-defense branch pledged major improvement Thursday in readiness, resources and response speed to help with catastrophic hurricanes this year. New procedures are in place so disaster assistance can be requested and sent days quicker than in last year's response to Hurricane Katrina, said Adm. Tim Keating, commander of the U.S. Northern Command, or NorthCom. The help ranges from damage assessment, mass feeding and air support to fuel distribution, medical evacuation and route clearing. In addition, NorthCom officers, all colonels, are permanently assigned at the 10 regional offices of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The daily presence at FEMA is to create familiarity so disaster response isn't caught in bureaucratic delays, Col. Stover James said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2006-05-04-hurricane-response\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2006-05-04-hurricane-response_x.htm)

### **3. House committee rips lack of oversight in Katrina contracting (GovExec.com, 5 May 2006)**

Government agencies responsible for disaster preparedness and recovery need to enlist more local workers, exercise more discretion to ensure contracts are being adequately fulfilled and expand the number of bids gathered, House Government Reform Committee members said at a hearing Thursday. Lawmakers from both parties criticized officials from the Homeland Security Department, Army Corps of Engineers, General Services Administration and Federal Emergency Management Agency for contracting problems in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, including widespread fraud, unused trailers for evacuees and excessive overcharging by contractors charged with cleaning up. At one point, Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., read from an Army Corps auditor's report detailing how contractors being paid to remove debris would arrive at the federal dumping site, check in and drive away -- only to return later with the same truckload, and receive double payment.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=33998&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=33998&dcn=e_gvet)

### **4. Hurricane drills catch local officials by surprise (GovExec.com, 9 May 2006)**

The Homeland Security Department last week kicked off a series of regional hurricane preparedness exercises, but some local officials have yet to be notified about the drills. "I haven't heard anything," said William Smith, emergency planner at the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, on Friday. "I'm getting questions from a number of people. I don't really have all the information." The Atlanta-Fulton County emergency management office has about 10 employees, Smith said, and two officials who spoke with *Government Executive* said they have not received notice of the drill, which begins May 31. Atlanta will be at the center of an emergency preparedness exercise that will involve participation from eight states, including Georgia, DHS said in its May 4 announcement, making the city's drill the biggest of five exercises.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34008&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34008&dcn=e_gvet)

### **5. Davis co-sponsors FEMA reform (FCW, 9 May 2006)**

A group of House members today introduced legislation that would remove the Federal Emergency Management Agency from the Homeland Security department and restore it to its earlier status as a Cabinet-level agency. Four Republicans and two Democrats spoke on behalf of the bipartisan legislation at a brief news conference at the Capitol. They argued that putting FEMA into DHS has led to a drain on both money and talented personnel for the agencies as those resources get diverted into other Homeland Security needs. In addition, the FEMA director no longer has a direct line to the Oval Office, and FEMA's sluggish and confused response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 showed the need for that top-level access, the lawmakers said. The bill is titled the Restoring Emergency Services to Protect Our Nation From Disasters Act, or RESPOND.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article94323-05-09-06-Web>

#### **6. Senators to seek limited verification of immigrant status (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 9 May 2006)**

A section in the Senate's bipartisan immigration overhaul bill that would require employers to check the immigration status of their workers could be finalized as early as Tuesday and is rapidly gaining support from industry groups and immigrant advocates alike. Title 3 of a revised bill that Senate Judiciary Chairman Arlen Specter, R-Pa., plans to bring to the Senate floor would establish an electronic employment verification eligibility system under which employers would be required to verify that workers they hire are legally able to be employed. The system would also give the Homeland Security Department access to information in Social Security Administration databases, something that Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff recently said is critical for investigations. Crafting Title 3 are Senate Finance Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and Senate Finance ranking member Max Baucus, D-Mont., along with Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Barack Obama, D-Ill.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34035&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34035&dcn=e_gvet)

#### **7. Guest-worker debate boosts alien-smuggling business (Washington Times, 9 May 2006)**

SASABE, Mexico - The old brickyard, known here as "la ladrillera," is the last stop in Mexico for many migrants headed illegally into the United States. This is where the "coyotes" give last-minute instructions to their human cargo, who each will pay fees ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,000 to be guided on the sometimes-deadly northbound trek into America. It's a three-day walk through the desert, where temperatures often climb above 110 degrees. For Gilbert Reyes, a self-proclaimed capitalist, the business to be in is alien smuggling. And, yes, business is "very good": The number of illegals crossing into the U.S., always high in this area, has risen steadily over the past two years -- ever since President Bush first announced his "guest worker" program.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/national/20060509-122941-1946r.htm>

#### **8. Plans for digitizing immigration records called into question (GovExec.com, 9 May 2006)**

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services bureau's \$190 million project to automate 55 million paper-based immigration files has suffered from inadequate planning, according to a new report from the Government Accountability Office. If management does not improve, the program risks "falling short of expectations and its funding requests cannot be justified," GAO said in the report (GAO-06-375). The agency has not developed an adequate plan for either the program or the contractors working on it, GAO said. For instance, there is no plan for evaluating ongoing digitization tests, and agency officials have not determined which files will be scanned, the report said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34031&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34031&dcn=e_gvet)

### **9. Judges Challenge Internet Wiretap Rules (AP, 5 May 2006)**

WASHINGTON - A U.S. appeals panel sharply challenged the Bush administration Friday over new rules making it easier for police and the FBI to wiretap Internet phone calls. A judge said the government's courtroom arguments were "gobbledygook." The skepticism expressed so openly toward the administration's case encouraged civil liberties and education groups that argued that the U.S. is improperly applying telephone-era rules to a new generation of Internet services. "Your argument makes no sense," U.S. Circuit Judge Harry T. Edwards told the lawyer for the Federal Communications Commission, Jacob Lewis. "When you go back to the office, have a big chuckle. I'm not missing this. This is ridiculous. Counsel!" At another point in the hearing, Edwards told the FCC's lawyer that his arguments were "gobbledygook" and "nonsense."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=782252>

### **10. Registered Traveler Program Goes Nationwide (By Sara Pralle, Contributing Editor, AVISIAN Publications, 8 May 2006)**

Increased airport security since 9/11 has led to a frustrating flying experience for many travelers. While few deny the need for safeguards, frequent flyers desperately want a means to avoid the lines and the hassle these security measures have created. Enter the Registered Traveler program, initiated by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), but now operated by the private sector. From the initial launch in Orlando, a handful of other airports have signed on and creative ways to expand the issuance opportunities are coming to fruition.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C29E1251D>

### **11. Feds Increasing Anthrax Vaccine Stockpile (AP, 5 May 2006)**

A Michigan company will receive \$120 million to produce 5 million more doses of anthrax vaccine to bolster the government's stockpile of antidotes against bioweapons. Lansing-based BioPort Corp. completed its delivery of 5 million doses of anthrax vaccine to the federal stockpile in February under a \$122.7 million contract. But the Department of Health and Human Services said Friday it would modify the contract to buy the additional doses of Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.forbes.com/home/feeds/ap/2006/05/05/ap2724899.html>

**12. US Official: UN Crisis Center For Bird Flu To Be Launched Within A Month (Noticias, 9 May 2006)**

“A UN crisis management center to coordinate international efforts against the spread of bird flu will be opened within a month, a top official with the US Agriculture Department said Monday,” reports The Associated Press. “The center at the Rome-base Food and Agriculture Organization will dispatch response teams to countries where bird flu is detected in animals and will channel aid, experts and equipment to areas where they are most needed, said Ron DeHaven, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The department, together with the US Agency for International Development, has allocated \$4.2 million to help get the center going. The Americans were urging other countries to pitch in, DeHaven said after talks with UN officials and government representatives from around the globe.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.noticias.info/asp/aspComunicados.asp?nid=176107&src=0>

**13. Ex-FBI Analyst Pleads Guilty to Espionage (AP, 5 May 2006)**

NEWARK, N.J. - A former FBI intelligence analyst admitted that for five years he passed classified information gleaned from White House and FBI computers to conspirators he said were trying to overthrow Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. Leandro Aragoncillo, 47, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in the Philippines, pleaded guilty Thursday to charges in a four-count indictment. The most serious charge, conspiracy to transmit national defense information, can carry the death penalty. But under a plea agreement, Aragoncillo faces 15 to 20 years in prison. "It was information that had the potential to compromise U.S. national security," said U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/nation/3842504.html>

**STATE AND LOCAL NEWS**

**14. AZ: Minutemen Aim to Build Ariz. Border Fences (AP, 9 May 2006)**

A civilian border-patrol group said Tuesday that it plans to build two short security fences on a ranch in southern Arizona, the busiest illegal entry point on the U.S.-Mexico border. Chris Simcox, a leader in the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps, said last month that the group would break ground on the fence unless the White House deployed U.S. troops to the border by May 25 and endorsed more secure fencing. "We are not anticipating that the White House will make any effort in the next 2 1/2 weeks as far as putting troops on the border," Minuteman spokeswoman Connie Hair said. The group initially plans to erect two parallel 15-foot steel-mesh fences, which will be from 50 to 150 feet long. An unpaved road will run between the fences.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/index.php?nid=104&sid=762082>

**15. AZ: Prosecutor says Mexico trying to dismantle Arizona smuggling law (KVOA, 9 May 2006)**

PHOENIX A prosecutor seeking to convict dozens of illegal immigrants for illegally crossing into Arizona has accused the Mexican government of organizing legal efforts to dismantle a state law targeting immigrant smugglers. Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas says the Mexican government has arranged for a lawyer to challenge his legal opinion that illegal immigrants suspected of using smugglers to cross into the state can be charged as conspirators. The lawyer also argues that the state can't regulate immigration.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:  
<http://kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=4880896&nav=HMO6>

**16. CA: Man pleads guilty in nuclear weapon smuggling hoax (Union-Tribune, 8 May 2006)**

A Mexican man who caused a national security scare 1½ years ago with a false story that a nuclear bomb was being smuggled through Mexicali for detonation in Boston pleaded guilty in federal court Friday. José Ernesto Beltran Quiñonez, 34, cried during an hour-long hearing in which he said that when he made up the story, he was high on methamphetamine and trying to cause trouble for his former employers, who were human smugglers. Before his claims were disproved, it prompted a massive investigation and national manhunt, and was a topic at President Bush's security briefing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:  
<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/mexico/tijuana/20060508-9999-1m8nuclear.html>

**17. CA: Harsher charges for spy suspects? (Pasadena Star News, 9 May 2006)**

SANTA ANA - Prosecutors plan to seek harsher charges against three people indicted as unregistered agents for a foreign country for allegedly trying to funnel U.S. military secrets to China, officials said Monday. The announcement regarding Chi Mak, 65, of Downey, his wife, Rebecca Laiwah Chiu, 62, and his brother, Tai Wang Mak, 56, of Alhambra, was made during a pretrial hearing before U.S. District Judge Cormac Carney. Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Staples said the three were indicted following the younger brother's arrest last Oct. 28 while preparing to leave Los Angeles for a trip to Hong Kong.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:  
[http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci\\_3800353](http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_3800353)

**18. CO: Human Smuggling Bill Clears Hurdle At Capitol (AP, 8 May 2006)**

DENVER A proposal to crack down on "coyotes" who transport illegal immigrants for money in Colorado passed a key hurdle Monday as House and Senate negotiators approved a compromise version. The proposal (Senate Bill 206) now goes back to both chambers for another vote as lawmakers wrap up the session, which formally ends on Wednesday. Human smuggling is already a crime under federal law, but state law-enforcement agencies and immigration critics say federal authorities haven't been tough enough on people who transport illegal immigrants in crowded vans and trucks.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:  
[http://cbs4denver.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_128114828.html](http://cbs4denver.com/topstories/local_story_128114828.html)

**19. DE: More anti-ID theft help may be on way (The News Journal, 9 May 2006)**

DOVER - Consumers would have the ability to keep prying eyes off their credit reports under legislation that will be reintroduced this week. Sen. Robert Venables, D-Laurel,

says he plans to introduce a new version of Senate Bill 109 by Thursday and hopes for votes on the bill shortly after lawmakers return from a two-week break on May 23. The revised bill would allow consumers to pay a one-time \$20 fee to credit rating bureaus to set up a security freeze on their credit reports. Information could not be released to lenders unless the consumer authorized it with a personal identification number issued to them by the credit bureaus.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060509/NEWS/60509031>

**20. FL: Florida police make data-sharing progress (FCW, 8 May 2006)**

Florida law enforcement officials are preparing for the second phase of a 15-month project to create a single statewide information-sharing system by linking several regional ones. Florida Department of Law Enforcement officials will release a requirements document for developing information-sharing systems for the Tallahassee, Fort Myers and Miami regions and the FDLE. Those systems will eventually link to four regional information-sharing systems, or nodes. Using their own systems, Florida law enforcement officials will be able to electronically access data from more than 400 local police agencies and sheriff's offices.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article94280-05-08-06-Print>

**21. FL: Florida Bill Would Allow Some Felons at Ports (Tampa Tribune, 4 May 2006)**

TAMPA - Gonzo Salvador has the expertise to install and operate metal-working machinery for a new 50,000-square-foot steel processing plant a Clearwater company is building at the Port of Tampa. Salvador, vice president of Summit Metal Service Inc. of Acworth, Ga., also acknowledges he is a convicted felon, after pleading guilty in 2004 to a charge of aggravated assault after a bar fight in Woodstock, Ga. That's the problem. Current Florida law precludes felons from access to seaports, so Salvador fears he will not be able to complete his contract.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.securityinfowatch.com/online/Standards-and-Legislation/8156SIW320>

**22. IA: Ames submits bid for \$500 million Homeland Security facility (WQAD, 6 May 2006)**

AMES, Iowa Ames is in the running for a 500 (m) million dollar facility that would test foreign animal diseases. A group led by Iowa State University submitted an application to the U-S Department of Homeland Security that could make Ames the new home for a new national bio- and agro-defense facility. The facility would house between 300 and 400 researchers, scientists and technicians along with support staff.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wqad.com/Global/story.asp?S=4869837&nav=1sW7>

**23. IA: Illegal Immigrant Smuggling (WOWT, 6 May 2006)**

A native of Mexico, pulled over in an Iowa traffic stop last month, is facing a 10 year prison sentence for smuggling illegal immigrants. Raul Gomez was stopped for speeding

on Interstate 80 near Cedar Rapids. Thirteen illegal immigrants were in the back of his Chevy Suburban. Gomez pleaded guilty to transporting illegal immigrants for profit. He told investigators that he was to be paid \$800 for each person.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wowt.com/news/headlines/2757086.html>

**24. MD: BWI may install security fast lane for business travelers (The Capital, 7 May 2006)**

For business traveler Bill Crowell, security checkpoint wait times at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport are usually a mixed bag. A defense contractor employee who passes through the airport about 15 times a year, Mr. Crowell sometimes breezes through security. Other times, he's stuck in a line for 25 minutes. That wait time would be a bit more predictable if BWI installs an express security checkpoint lane dedicated to business travelers like Mr. Crowell and other frequent fliers. Airport officials are exploring the installment of the federally managed Registered Traveler program, which allows travelers to pass through separate express lanes for a fee - the one in Orlando is \$79.95 for a year - while still going through high levels of security.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.hometownannapolis.com/cgi-bin/read/2006/05\\_07-41/BUS](http://www.hometownannapolis.com/cgi-bin/read/2006/05_07-41/BUS)

**25. MA: National Guard to create new intelligence-gathering unit (AP, 9 May 2006)**

BOSTON - Members of the Massachusetts Air National Guard's 102d Fighter Wing will be transferred to a new high-tech intelligence gathering unit to be located somewhere in the state, a guard spokesman said Tuesday. The fighter wing is currently located at Otis Air National Guard base on Cape Cod. It was expected to lose hundreds of jobs when the fighter wing's F-15s are transferred to the air guard station at Barnes Municipal Airport in Westfield as part of the realignment of military bases. Under the plan disclosed Tuesday, some members of the fighter wing will be reassigned to a new unit designed to provide "real-time intelligence processing, exploitation and dissemination" to commanders in the field anywhere in the world.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q1AE1251D>

**26. MN: U of M Schools Help Minnesota Prepare for Pandemic (Univ of Minn. 8 May 2006)**

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL - If pandemic flu struck in Minnesota, would health care workers be prepared to work in circumstances more challenging than any they have ever experienced? Would they know how hospitals operate during a disaster, understand the chain of command, including their own role, or know what support they would receive from local, state, and federal governments? Would they have a basis for making ethical decisions about who receives scarce resources like ventilators, or medications like antivirals, antibiotics, and vaccines? These and related complex issues will be the subject of two Emergency Readiness Rounds for health professionals offered at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus and via web cast. The first session will be Tuesday, May 9; the second will be held Wednesday, June 28. The seminars are sponsored by Minnesota Emergency Readiness Education and Training (MERET), a program of the

University of Minnesota's School of Nursing and School of Public Health Centers for Public Health Education and Outreach. Funding comes from the Health Resources and Services Administration at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ahc.umn.edu/news/releases/prepare050806/home.html>

**27. MN: Legislature considering ways to fight ID theft (AP, 9 May 2006)**

ST. PAUL - The Minnesota Legislature is considering whether Minnesotans would have to be the victims of identity theft before they could freeze their credit reports and make it more difficult for thieves to open accounts in their victims' names. While consumer advocates argue that consumers should be able to proactively freeze their accounts with credit bureaus, one lawmaker worries that doing so would hurt businesses by making them unable to offer "instant credit" to shoppers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.duluthsuperior.com/mld/duluthsuperior/news/politics/14537204.htm>

**28. NV: Mushroom cloud blast in Nevada delayed to June 23, agencies say (AP, 9 May 2006)**

LAS VEGAS - A non-nuclear explosion expected to generate a mushroom cloud over the Nevada desert will be postponed at least three weeks, while a federal court reviews plans for the blast, test officials said Tuesday. "The planned Divine Strake experiment will not be conducted earlier than June 23," said Cheri Abdelnour, spokeswoman for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency at Fort Belvoir, Va. The blast was originally scheduled for June 2. Darwin Morgan, spokesman for the National Nuclear Security Administration in North Las Vegas, confirmed the date change but declined further comment.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/sunbin/stories/nevada/2006/may/09/050910834.html>

**29. OR: Special unit deals with hazardous materials (Statesman Journal, 9 May 2006)**

There are some unsung heroes of sorts among us. They are members of Oregon's Regional Hazardous Material Emergency Response Team, and they are headquartered right here at South Salem's Fire Station No. 9. This team of 25 hazardous materials technicians is the one that responds to calls involving unknown substances that may pose public health and safety threats. For example, when the Capitol mailroom received letters with suspicious white powder on them a couple years ago, it was the hazmat team that responded. Working methodically and keeping the public out of harm's way, the team determined the powder was not the dreaded anthrax. Had it been, hazmat protocols would have been swiftly put into action.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://159.54.226.83/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060509/NEWS/605090311/1064>

**KEY PEOPLE**

**30. MD: FBI Director Mueller Names William D. Chase as Special Agent in Charge of the Baltimore Field Office (FBI, 8 May 2006)**

Washington, D.C - FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III today announced the appointment of William D. Chase as Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Baltimore Field Office. The FBI's Baltimore Field Office's territory encompasses the states of Maryland and Delaware. Mr. Chase is a native of Haverhill, Massachusetts. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Westfield State College in 1978 and a Juris Doctorate degree from Vermont Law School in 1981. After two years of private law practice, Mr. Chase entered on duty with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was assigned to the St. Louis Field Office, where he worked narcotics and organized crime investigations. In 1986, Mr. Chase was designated a Supervisory Special Agent and transferred to the Legal Counsel Division at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. In January of 1991, Mr. Chase was promoted to the position of Special Assistant to the Director and served in this capacity until June of 1993, when he was transferred to the Washington Field Office. While at the Washington Field Office, Mr. Chase was assigned to the criminal branch, where he supervised the Forfeiture Asset Seizure Team (FAST), the Interstate Theft and Car Jacking Squad and the Fugitive Squad. He was also the Principal Legal Advisor for approximately one year.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel06/chase050806.htm>

**31. NY: Head of NYPD's counterterrorism bureau to step down (AP, 6 May 2006)**

NEW YORK - The head of the counterterrorism bureau at the nation's largest police department is leaving his post later this month. Michael Sheehan, 51, will be a fellow at New York University and teach at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, his alma mater. He said he also plans to write a book about the challenges facing America's counterterrorism efforts, as well as work as a security consultant in the financial services industry. No replacement has been named.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?D28E2221D>

**GANG ACTIVITY**

**32. CA: Hells Angels' road gets rougher The outlaw gang is leaving a trail of deaths and busts (San Francisco Chronicle, 7 May 2006)**

It has been a hell of a year for the Hells Angels -- and it is not likely to get any better for the Bay Area members of the world's most famous outlaw motorcycle gang. Oh, right. It's not a gang. Just a bunch of motorcycle enthusiasts. "The club is a motorcycle club, it is not an organized gang, it is not a criminal enterprise," says Jim Bustamante. He's the lawyer representing "Joey" Wilson, the president of the bikers' Frisco chapter who was busted two weeks ago -- along with his sergeant at arms and 10 associates -- on methamphetamine and cocaine charges. All the accused deny the charges.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P2705261D>

**33. FL: 'Godfather' of Cuban-American mafia pleads guilty in federal trial (AP, 6 May 2006)**

MIAMI - The man known as the godfather of the Cuban-American mafia pleaded guilty during his federal racketeering trial because of declining health. Jose Miguel Battle Sr., 76, could face sentencing in late summer for serving as the boss of "The Corporation," a crime ring that operated in New York, Florida and Latin America over four decades.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q1DF6251D>

**34. IN: Human smuggling suspects appear in court (IndyStar, 8 May 2006)**

Three men accused of holding captive more than 20 illegal immigrants are scheduled to appear in Marion Superior Court this morning. Jose DeJesus Palacios, 33, Rolando Marcial-Hernandez, 24, and Sergio Felix-Martinez, 29, will appear before Judge Patricia Gifford on charges of conspiracy to commit kidnapping, criminal confinement and intimidation. Palacios faces additional charges of attempted kidnapping and attempted criminal confinement. Prosecutors said the men are behind an illegal immigrant smuggling ring that set up a way station on the city's Far Southside this week. The 20 immigrants were held in a one-bedroom apartment, denied showers and fed just one egg a day, prosecutors said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?X29F1551D>

**35. MD: County Officials Work to Nip Gang Activity in the Bud (The View, 8 May 2006)**

The Washington, D.C. area has made headlines for an alarming rise in gang activity recently, and local officials are also stepping up vigilance toward potential gang threats in Howard County. Although gangs remain a very low threat here, police are taking proactive measures in an attempt to prevent more violent crimes, such as those associated with MS-13 (Mara Salvatrucha), a Latino gang responsible for several high-profile assaults and murders in northern Virginia. At an April 19 presentation sponsored by the county's Association of Community Services, police officers explained how to recognize gang symbols to about 60 human service providers, other officials and members of the general public at Oakland Mills' Meeting House.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.theviewnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=7535&paper=91&cat=193>

**36. NM: Man believed to be member of violent gang arrested on DWI charge (AP, 6 May 2006)**

State police on Friday captured who they believe is the state's first known member of an international gang that federal agents often compare to terrorists. Officers in Valencia County arrested Marvin Flores on charges of drunk driving. While being questioned, police say, Flores admitted to being a member of the Mara Salvatrucha gang, which the Department of Homeland Security considers an international terrorist group.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L2FF2151D>

**37. TX: Trial shines light on savage world (Rio Grande Valley Bureau, 8 May 2006)**

RIO GRANDE CITY - It was a claustrophobic ride — six men stacked like cordwood behind the driver's seat of a pickup — but also a typical one for many undocumented immigrants. These immigrants, however, weren't typical. They were loyalists to the notorious Mara Salvatrucha gang, also known as MS-13, names which some of the immigrants had tattooed extensively across their bodies, according to court records and testimony at a recent murder trial here. MS-13 member Carlos Omar Martinez Rivera was sentenced April 27 to 50 years in prison for slaying the guide who led him and about a dozen other undocumented immigrants across the U.S.-Mexico border.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Y2EF2351D>

**38. UT: Utah conducts organized crime investigation of Polygamy leader (KESQ, 9 May 2006)**

SALT LAKE CITY - Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff says his office is conducting an organized crime investigation into a fugitive polygamist church leader and his organization. Shurtleff says he believes Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints leader, Warren Jeffs ran the church and its financial arm, the United Effort Plan trust, as an organized crime-type set-up. Shurtleff tells the Deseret Morning News that Jeffs and the church are being looked at for double books, cooking books, offshore accounts and fraud. Shurtleff has contended in the past that Jeffs used the U-E-P to reward or punish followers. A special fiduciary now oversees the trust.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kesq.com/Global/story.asp?S=4878238&nav=9qrx>

**39. VA: Parents Get Educated About Gangs At First In Series Of Town Meetings (DNR Online, 9 May 2006)**

BROADWAY - Sgt. Chris Rush is convinced that fighting an increasing gang presence in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County starts at home. "It has to be a joint effort, but there is a lot that parents can do," Rush said Monday night. "Getting involved with your kids is the best defense we have against gangs." Rush, a member of the Combined Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Gang Enforcement (CHARGE), participated in the first of a series of town hall meetings, designed to educate parents on the signs of gang involvement.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.dnronline.com/news\\_details.php?AID=4276&CHID=2](http://www.dnronline.com/news_details.php?AID=4276&CHID=2)

**40. Canada: RCMP commissioner says organized crime and terrorists working closely (Canadian Press, 8 May 2006)**

OTTAWA - The head of the RCMP says his agency is increasingly concerned about evidence that organized crime groups are helping to fund terrorists. Giuliano Zaccardelli's observations Monday may come as a shock to some, but not to those who monitor trends in law enforcement. Almost every conceivable type of crime racket helps to finance terrorists whose chief goal is killing Westerners, said one expert in the field. That includes hashish baggies being peddled on street corners, cocaine trafficking, prostitution, pick-pocketing, knock-off designer items and credit card fraud. Zaccardelli

wasn't quite that specific during his appearance before a Senate committee Monday. But he said the evidence is clear, and continually mounting.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E4604261D>

## **NARCO TRAFFICKING**

### **41. CA: Border Patrol Seizes 77 Pounds Of Cocaine (AP, 8 May 2006)**

*SAN CLEMENTE, Calif.* The Border Patrol says it seized 77 pounds of cocaine at the Camp Pendleton checkpoint near San Clemente. Authorities stopped the 2001 Ford Expedition and inspected the vehicle with mobile X-ray machine. The agency says the cocaine was discovered under a seat.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://cbs2.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_128211306.html](http://cbs2.com/topstories/local_story_128211306.html)

### **42. CA: Producer, magazine editor charged in Ecstasy smuggling case (AP, 9 May 2006)**

LOS ANGELES - The head of an urban lifestyle magazine and the former co-host of the defunct Playboy TV show "Buckwild" were among 11 people indicted on charges of using aspiring models to smuggle Ecstasy tablets from Europe, authorities said. Tens of thousands of pills, selling on the street for as much as \$60 each, were smuggled into Los Angeles and New York in 2000 and 2001, authorities alleged in court documents. "That translates into huge profits that are often funneled back into further criminal activity," said Kevin Kozak, acting special agent in charge at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Los Angeles.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking\\_news/14538298.htm](http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking_news/14538298.htm)

### **43. HI: Big Isle police see cocaine making comeback (AP, 8 May 2006)**

HILO - Two Big Island police teams formed three years ago to crack down on crystal methamphetamine are starting to see more of a different drug: cocaine. The island's Hilo and Kona Ice Task Force teams confiscated more cocaine last year than crystal methamphetamine, or "ice." Miles Chong of the police department in Hilo said stricter enforcement to control the ice problem on the island might have caused people to switch to cocaine. "Both are stimulants," Chong said. "If they can't have one, they will choose the other." In 2004, Hilo police collected 11,928 grams of ice and 110.7 grams of cocaine during 83 search warrants. But last year, they brought in 6,551.7 grams of ice and 5,592.7 grams of powdered cocaine through 90 search warrants.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://starbulletin.com/2006/05/08/news/story02.html>

### **44. IA: Cocaine sits in meth's shadow (The Hawkeye, 7 May 2006)**

Undercover police officer Brad Siegfried has made the contacts, eluded detection of his identity and is poised to make a buy from a Burlington drug dealer. But he's not purchasing the high-profile methamphetamine that has garnered headlines as the scourge of Iowa. Instead, it's an ounce of crack cocaine or powdered cocaine that Siegfried will

buy from a Chicago dealer who has set up shop in Burlington. "We see a lot of these drugs on the streets of Burlington," Siegfried said. "It's a mixture of homegrown dealers and those who come from Chicago and other places to sell crack and powdered cocaine here." While the campaign to stop meth shows signs of success throughout southeast Iowa, the sale of powdered cocaine and crack or rock cocaine continues to be big business in Des Moines County.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.thehawkeye.com/daily/stories/ln3\\_0507.html](http://www.thehawkeye.com/daily/stories/ln3_0507.html)

**45. LA: Bossier City drug sweep results in dozens of arrests (The Shreveport Times, 8 May 2006)**

A weeklong operation by Bossier City police has resulted with dozens of people, including three juveniles, under arrest on a buffet of drug-related charges. Last week, the department's Narcotics Unit and Street Crimes Interdiction Unit began executing arrest warrants across Bossier City, Shreveport, and surrounding parishes, closing investigations that in most cases began in mid-2005, Bossier City Police Chief Mike Halphen announced. During the operation, which ended over the weekend, narcotics agents and street crimes officers arrested 45 people on various drug related charges. Officers expect to make 10 more arrests in connection with the investigations, police said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060508/NEWS/60508020>

**46. NJ: The Human Cost of Herion (NJ Herald, 7 May 2006)**

Sussex County's heroin epidemic was first publicly diagnosed early in 1999, after area officials saw seizures of the opiate jump tenfold almost overnight, from a mere 18 bags in 1997 to 204 in 1998. Since then, heroin has remained the hard drug of choice here, and — despite the efforts of law enforcement and community organizations — it shows no signs of waning. If anything, some officials say, it's getting worse. One troubling sign is that there have been three overdose deaths, all from heroin, in Sussex County so far this year, including a 17-year-old girl from Hardyston and an 18-year-old man in Hopatcong, according to Becky Carlson, head of the Coalition for Healthy and Safe Families in Newton.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.njherald.com/287080465601457.php>

**47. OH: Police: 4 Kilos Of Cocaine, Guns, Cash Found In Home (nbc4i.com, 5 May 2006)**

WHITEHALL, Ohio - Whitehall police said they have made a major drug bust, taking a significant drug dealer off the streets. The bust occurred at the home on Sidney Road at about 3 p.m., NBC 4's John Ivanic reported. Police said they confiscated 4 kilos of cocaine, valued at \$100,000, from the home. Officials said they also found crack cocaine, ecstasy, mushrooms and marijuana inside the home.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbc4i.com/news/9168718/detail.html>

**48. OK: Smuggling suspects to face grand jury (Muskogee Phoenix, 6 May 2006)**

Seven people arrested in connection with an international drug smuggling ring based in Sallisaw were ordered Friday to appear next month before a grand jury. A federal court judge ruled that Samuel E. Valdivia, 43, remain jailed without bond in the Muskogee County/City Detention Facility. A \$20,000 bond was set for Valdivia's wife Rhonda Valdivia, 37, and she is also on home confinement. Bonds of \$25,000 each were set for Paul Philpot, 62 (Rhonda Valdivia's father), and Travis Philpot, 28 (Rhonda Valdivia's brother). Hoyet W. Philpot, 57, a former Sequoyah County commissioner, David and Twila Nelson, also were ordered bound over to appear before the grand jury. Nine people were named recently in a criminal complaint alleging Samuel Valdivia operated a large drug smuggling ring and used his family and friends to serve as couriers of thousands of pounds of marijuana and cocaine and millions of dollars in cash.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?X48F3151D>

**49. Canada: Police bust drug smuggling ring (The Gazette, 9 May 2006)**

MONTREAL - More than 140 police officers are involved in an operation which has been underway since 6 a.m. Tuesday to dismantle a contraband marijuana and tobacco smuggling ring. At least 14 people have been arrested in the third phase of 'Operation Piranha'.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q27F3151D>

**50. Dominican Republic: Colombian introduced 5 tons of cocaine in U.S.A. arrested (Dominican Today, 7 May 2006)**

SANTO DOMINGO. – The Joint Coordination of the National Direction of Drug Control Center (CICC) arrested Colombian national Amílcar Barros Gomez, who was sought by the District of Florida Court, accused of introducing five tons of cocaine in the United States. Barros Gomez was arrested during an operative made in Venezuela Avenue, Santo Domingo. The prisoner, who was sent yesterday to the United States, is also implicated in the shipment intercepted 150 miles of the coast of Aruba, during an international coordinated operation in which participated the DNCD, Dutch Real Navy and the United States DEA, the shipment was aboard the Paola motor-ship, which transported 2,4 tons of cocaine. DNCD spokesman, Buena Ventura Torres, explained that CICC agents maintained a permanent vigil, monitoring the Colombian's activities in the country how prepared a boat at the Felix Benítez dock in the Eastern Ozama river side aiming to use it for the drug shipment transport.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dominicantoday.com/app/article.aspx?id=13171>

**51. China, US seize record amount of cocaine (Shanghai Daily, 9 May 2006)**

CHINESE and US agents today announced the arrests of nine people in China's largest seizure of smuggled cocaine, according to the Associated Press. Those held included two Colombian nationals arrested in Hong Kong, along with suspects from Hong Kong and China's mainland, officials of China's customs agency and the US Drug Enforcement Administration said at a news conference. Officers confiscated 142.7 kilograms of

cocaine smuggled from Colombia, along with the equivalent of about US\$25,000 in Chinese and Hong Kong currency, said Liu Guangping, spokesman for the Customs General Administration of China. The case illustrates how South American drug gangs are aggressively moving into Asia to exploit new markets and expand their global distribution chains, said William Fiebig, a DEA special agent based in Beijing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M2503261D>

**52. Australia: US Navy sailor pleads guilty in 'ice' smuggling trial (ABC News Online AU, 8 May 2006)**

A US sailor has pleaded guilty to smuggling seven kilograms of the drug 'ice' into Australia on a US Navy ship last year. Daniel Maio, 36, changed his plea on the fourth day of his Supreme Court trial in Townsville, in north Queensland. During the course of the trial, the court heard Maio hid the drugs in the radar compartment of the USS Boxer, on which he was a chief petty officer. The drugs were brought ashore on a recreational visit to Townsville last June.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200605/s1633335.htm>

**CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

**53. Door to ID theft often ajar, 6 May 2006)**

It's every consumer's nightmare, and it seems to be happening with increasing frequency. Your bank, shoe store or school says computer hackers have stolen personal information, including Social Security numbers. Maybe a government agency is posting your Social Security number on the Web, as was the case recently with Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell. That could invite criminals from around the world to take a peek. Or perhaps you just learned from Ohio University, as thousands did this week, that computer hackers gained access to Social Security numbers and other personal details. How much risk is involved when a Social Security number has been compromised? Experts say it's the single most important piece of information a criminal can obtain. But it alone isn't enough to assume another's identity or withdraw money from accounts.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J46F6151D>

**54. Scam takes identity theft to new level (News-Record, 7 May 2006)**

GREENSBORO - As executor of his parents' estate, former Greensboro resident Steve Israel had the only checkbook to the Israel Family Partnership Account with the Merrill Lynch office here. Only he could write checks on the account, which his parents, Archie and Adelaide Israel, of Greensboro, opened in 1998, six years before their deaths in late 2004. Steve Israel received an e-mail in January from a Greensboro accountant working on the account's taxes. The accountant wondered about a multitude of transactions -- totaling \$26,345 -- on the Merrill Lynch account statement.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J15F2651D>

**55. Identity Theft Assistance Center Welcomes Four New Members; MasterCard International, Genworth Financial, Toyota Financial Services and New Century Financial Corporation Demonstrate Commitment to Identity Theft Victims (Business Wire, 8 May 2006)**

WASHINGTON - MasterCard International Inc., Genworth Financial, Toyota Financial Services and Toyota Financial Savings Bank, and New Century Financial Corporation are the latest companies to become members of the Identity Theft Assistance Center (ITAC), a not-for-profit cooperative initiative that offers free victim assistance. "These companies recognize that providing a helping hand at a time when consumers are frightened or overwhelmed is an invaluable customer service," said Anne Wallace, executive director of the Identity Theft Assistance Corporation, which operates ITAC. "We welcome their participation in our efforts to help victims, educate consumers about prevention, and give law enforcement the data they need to catch and convict identity thieves." Originally solely open to financial services companies, ITAC now welcomes companies in other industries targeted by identity thieves, including retailing and telecommunications. Today's announcement of the new members of ITAC provides further evidence of this shift.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E2006261D>

## **TECHNOLOGY**

**56. DC: 'Spy' cameras net a \$3.3 million haul (Washington Times, 8 May 2006)**

The Metropolitan Police Department collected a record \$3.3 million in fines from its automated speed cameras in March -- increasing the five-year-old program's total revenue to more than \$100 million. The amount marks the first time that the program has collected more than \$3 million in monthly revenues, even though only 2.2 percent of more than 3 million vehicles monitored in March were cited for speeding, according to police statistics. The percentage was near 30 percent when the program began in 2001. The percentage in March was the second lowest for a month, with the lowest at 2 percent in February.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20060508-120656-4507r.htm>

## **RESOURCES**

**57. Hazmat Security Requirements (Safety Business Legal Reports, 9 May 2006)**

Security awareness is nothing new in the world of hazardous materials. No doubt that you have probably had some type of security training when you were hired by your company. The events of 9/11 and Oklahoma City, however, have dramatically changed our point of view on security. A heightened sense of awareness is now clearly a necessity when handling and transporting hazardous materials (Hazmat). With 80,000 shipments or millions of tons of hazardous materials moving across the United States every day, security awareness training is very important. It is also now required by regulation (49 CFR 172.704). The new requirements went into effect March 25, 2003. The regulations require all hazmat employees receive training that provides an awareness of security risks

associated hazardous materials transportation and methods designed to enhance transportation security. The training must also cover how to recognize and respond to possible security threats. New employees are required this training within 90 days of employment.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://safety.blr.com/display.cfm/id/101202>

**58. Standards Clarified for Flying Hazmats (Safety Business Legal Reports, 8 May 2006)**

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has issued a package of amendments to the hazardous materials regulations (HMR) governing air transport. While a relatively small number of actual revisions to requirements have been made, the rule also reorganizes large parts of 49 CFR 175 (Carriage by Aircraft) and contains a significant number of clarifications that may have the effect of requirement changes for some affected entities. Perhaps the major clarification involves applicability, or the specific businesses that must comply with Part 175. PHMSA notes that there has been a misconception that companies not specifically engaged in air operations are not subject to the air HMRs. PHMSA clarifies that the HMRs require each person who offers, accepts, or transports packages by air to comply with all applicable regulatory requirements. In other words, packaging, shipping, and freight forwarding facilities are subject to the requirements in Part 175 when accepting hazmats for air transport. Accordingly, the applicability statement at 49 CFR 175.1 has been modified to clearly encompass persons other than air carriers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://safety.blr.com/display.cfm/id/101201>

**59. "High Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (HEMP) and High Power Microwave (HPM) Devices: Threat Assessments," Congressional Research Service report updated April 14, 2006 (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation on American Scientists)**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL32544.pdf>

**60. "Direct Assaults Against Presidents, Presidents-Elect, and Candidates," Congressional Research Service report updated April 5, 2006 (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation on American Scientists)**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS20821.pdf>

**FULL REPORTS**

**61. Seminar Seeks to Streamline Disaster Relief (By Paul X. Rutz, American Forces Press Service, 5 May 2006)**

SPRINGFIELD, Va., – This week, the Marine Corps partnered with Joint Forces Command to host "Joint Urban Warrior 2006 Homeland Security/Homeland Defense," a

seminar examining what happens when the military must support civil authorities in response to a major domestic natural disaster.

"Getting to know your counterpart ahead of time in exercises like this is so important," one official said, speaking on background. "If the first time I meet you, it's 3 a.m. and we've got our helmets on and the crap is hitting the fan, we're not going to work too great together because the stressors are already up."

The exercise used computer models to simulate a Category 4 hurricane traveling up the Potomac River tidal basin into Washington, D.C., destroying large swaths of Virginia, Maryland, and the nation's capital.

Over 100 participants attended the wargaming seminar, representing not only the Defense Department and experienced local first responders, but also telephone companies and other infrastructure providers. One Defense Department official said a wide variety of opinions here made things feel real, "since that's how it'll really be in a disaster like this, and we'll have to work together."

Another official said a hurricane like this one would significantly damage military readiness, so event planners added a twist: Following on the hurricane's heels, they simulated a terrorist incident involving a chlorine gas spill on a rail line in nearby Lorton, Va. They said terrorists might try to capitalize on a time of national trauma at the moment first responders are stretched to their limits.

Frank Jordan, director of the Marine Corps warfighting lab's wargaming division, said this seminar was part of an annual effort to study the effects of "complex urban operations."

This seminar was the second of two parallel efforts held this year that looked at urban issues. The first, "Joint Urban Warfare 2006 Small Wars," was held in Potomac, Md., in April.

Jordan said the group studied three simultaneous operations in what he called the "Three Block War." They include combat, stability and support, and humanitarian relief operations.

The seminar was broken down into several "vignettes," focusing on small parts of the bigger disaster. For each vignette, officials were asked to provide the top five problems they would need to respond to, the top five priorities during their response, and five innovative approaches that would make responding more safe and efficient. Officials said the group's findings will be distributed to some government agencies as compact disks with articles, video files and other media to best illustrate the group's recommendations.

Retired Marine Col. Gary Anderson said he expects to make several recommendations based on what he saw at this event. For instance, he said, Defense Department commands

should facilitate partnerships between communities in western Virginia and those in the Potomac tidewater area to create a host-community situation. That way, if a hurricane evacuation must be done, people will have a place to go that is already prepared with supplies and shelter.

Other recommendations lend themselves to modeling and computer simulation. Data from 2005's devastating hurricanes Katrina and Rita will be used to help evacuation planners study how people will react to government agencies setting up different evacuation routes and explore new ideas on how best to distribute fuel and other supplies to evacuees, he said.

The information gathered at the seminar will be used to plan for much more than a natural disaster here, Jordan said. Near-term planning is a big concern for the Marine Corps, and his researchers are constantly looking for good ideas to put into practice now for forces on the ground in conflicts and humanitarian aid situations around the world. Air Force Lt. Col. Ron Rozenkranz, JFCOM's military lead for the seminar, said he agreed that perhaps the best lesson coming out of the seminar is learning ways to plan from new perspectives. "Military guys, we write plans and we exercise the plan," he said. But, Rozenkranz said, his focus is the future. JFCOM is using this seminar and others like it to look ahead to the technologies and procedures that the nation will need in 2015.

"These kinds of events provide that seed, if you will, for experimentation," he said.

"We've taken the need for battlespace awareness, persistent intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance -- those ideas that have been kind of talked about in recurring themes kind of bubble to the top."

## **62. Terrorists Use Cyberspace as Important Communications Tool (By Jacquelyn S. Porth, Washington File Staff Writer, 5 May 2006)**

Washington – Hostile adversaries in the global war against terrorism are using cyberspace as an effective communications tool, a senior civilian Defense Department official says.

Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Peter Rodman told members of Congress May 4 that as many as 5,000 Web sites around the world are being used for propaganda purposes to create speeches, graphics, sermons, posters, training manuals, slides, blogs, web casts and video games as well as compact and digital video discs. The Internet also is being used by terrorists to carry out tactical command-and-control functions and to raise money and recruit foot soldiers.

Rodman made his observation during an unclassified House Intelligence Committee hearing on how terrorists use the Internet to disseminate strategic messages including spreading false rumors that rapidly gain currency as they bounce from one medium to another.

Terrorists have no problem finding outlets for their video messages in mainstream media, Rodman said, adding that messages are crafted carefully and translated rapidly into targeted languages including Russian, Arabic and Turkish.

There are even messages designed to appeal to those seemingly removed from the battleground, Rodman said, pointing to a program pitched to domestic households. The message says: "You can support the jihad from your kitchen" by raising children that support the cause." The message further conveys: "You don't necessarily have to directly support us, just don't interfere. . . . Remain neutral. Don't turn us in."

Rodman said terrorists also are using the Internet effectively to spread a message of intimidation aimed at journalists (through beheadings captured on video), in some instances, and local civilian audiences in places like Iraq and Afghanistan where they have sought to justify violence in the name of an Islam under siege.

Terrorists' Internet messages have become increasingly sophisticated with the hiring of a cadre of Internet specialists who serve the cause and operate computer servers worldwide. Ron Roughead, a contractor who accompanied Rodman to the hearing, said al-Qaida relies on its Global Islamic Media Unit for its outreach efforts.

Dan Devlin, a public diplomacy specialist in Rodman's office, showed the committee unedited, multimedia examples of terrorist disinformation on the Internet. "We're continuously amazed at how they're able to . . . snag multimedia products or images, repackage it to fit their own goals and objectives," he said, and distribute them rapidly on a global scale.

Devlin said the strategy of the terrorists is to propagate simple messages, quickly and to repeat them until they have saturated cyberspace. The messages are also loaded with an emotional appeal to their target audiences that are youth aged 7 to 25, he said.

Devlin said the messages dwell on two themes: victimization and a call to action that can mean taking up arms or delivering suicide bombs. These messages "distort the truth . . . use selective pieces of the truth . . . distortion, or, in some cases they create new truth," he said.

The theme of victimization is exploited through false accusations that the United States and its allies are trying disgrace or humiliate Muslim society and culture, Devlin said. As an example of how terrorists distort the truth, the analyst said their call to action often is framed in the context there is a crusade under way against Islam. Calls to action exhort recruits to fight to restore dignity to their people, according to the Web sites analyzed.

The committee also heard testimony from terrorist expert Bruce Hoffman of the RAND Corporation. He said "the weapons of terrorism today are no longer only the gun and the bomb, but . . . the mini-cam and video tape, the editing suite and attendant production facilities."

He said “the most critical accouterments for terrorists . . . have become laptop and desktop computers, CD burners, e-mail accounts and access to the Internet and the World Wide Web.”

Terrorists are challenging “the monopoly over mass communications that both state-owned and commercial media have long exercised,” Hoffman said.

Unfortunately, he said, the Internet has equipped terrorist groups “to engage in an endless repetition of the most base and coarsest conspiracy theories.” With their ability to refresh Web sites several times daily, he said, terrorists are “competing with established, traditional news wire services like the Associated Press, UPI, Agence France-Presse” and others.

Hoffman said it is important for U.S. allies and coalition partners to rebut falsehoods. “It’s not only how we direct and . . . conceive and create our messages of public diplomacy and information,” he said, “but how we enable, facilitate, encourage and resource our allies and coalition partners to do the same [kind of rebuttals] from their own websites and . . . media and information sources, [so] that they, too, can counter the terrorist and insurgent propaganda that’s directed as much against themselves as it is against us.”

For more information on U.S. policy, see [\*Response to Terrorism\*](#).

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

### **63. United States Working with Mexico, Canada on Energy Security (By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, 5 May 2006)**

Washington - The United States is working cooperatively with Mexico and Canada to help deal with the "very challenging situation" of finding a secure and sustainable supply of energy to North America, says U.S. Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman.

Speaking May 4 at a press conference in Washington following a meeting with the top officials from Mexico and Canada, Bodman said the Bush administration is "very appreciative" and "pleased" the two countries are leading oil suppliers to the United States.

The U.S. Energy Department ranks Mexico as the Number 1 oil supplier to the United States, followed by Canada, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and Venezuela.

Bodman said Canada and Mexico "are not only neighbors, they are also our two largest energy suppliers, and therefore, it's very important to recognize that fact and to discuss our shared goals and challenges for the months and years ahead." Bodman spoke at the news conference with Mexican Energy Secretary Fernando Canales Clariond and Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Gary Lunn.

Bodman added that energy security is "essential for the economic prosperity of North

America. The pursuit of this aim is among the most important trilateral initiatives in which our three countries can engage."

The U.S. official recounted several areas in which the three countries could continue to improve their energy security. These areas, he said, include improved energy information transparency, advanced research and development for new energy technologies, "enhanced compatibility" of efficiency energy standards, and greater regulatory coordination and streamlining regarding rules regarding the use of energy.

During the news conference, Bodman also discussed steps the Bush administration is taking to mitigate for American consumers the current high price of gasoline and efforts to increase oil supplies to the United States.

The meeting between the three officials was held as part of an energy working group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America. The goals of the agreement, announced in March 2005, include increasing reliable energy supplies to the region by promoting investment in energy infrastructure, technology improvements and production. (See [related article](#).)

The partnership also seeks to streamline and update energy regulations, and to promote energy efficiency, conservation and technologies such as clean coal, carbon capture and storage, and renewable energy. (See related White House [fact sheet](#).)

For additional information, see [The Americas](#) and [Energy Policy](#).

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

#### **64. U.S. Health Agency Awards \$1 Billion to Prepare for Pandemic (By Cheryl Pellerin, Washington File Staff Writer, 5 May 2006)**

Washington – As part of the president's plan to prepare for a pandemic, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt announced the award of more than \$1 billion to five pharmaceutical companies to accelerate development and production of new technologies for influenza vaccines in the United States.

During a May 4 press briefing, Leavitt said the goal is to have the ability in the United States, within three to five years, to manufacture 300 million courses of pandemic flu vaccine within six months of the declaration of a pandemic.

"The hard truth is that at this moment," Leavitt said, "the capacity simply does not exist within the United States to produce vaccines with sufficient speed and quantity to reach every American, and that's true in countries all over the world. But that's about to begin to change."

In November 2005, President Bush proposed \$7.1 billion for a multiyear effort to prepare the nation for a pandemic, and Congress provided the first \$3.8 billion in funding to implement the plan. (See [related article](#).)

"We're using those funds to pursue a broad strategy of preparedness," Leavitt said,

“including investing, in vaccines, investing in rapid diagnostics, investing in dose-stretching technology. We also are increasing our domestic and international surveillance and planning.”

The Bush administration unveiled a far-reaching plan May 3, the *National Strategy for Pandemic Flu Preparedness Implementation Plan*, that directs federal government agencies to take more than 300 actions to prepare for an outbreak of pandemic influenza. (See [related article](#).)

## DEVELOPING NEW FLU TECHNOLOGIES

The five companies are GlaxoSmithKline (\$274.75 million), MedImmune (\$169.46 million), Novartis Vaccines & Diagnostics (\$220.51 million), DynPort Vaccine with Baxter Healthcare (\$40.97 million), and Solvay Pharmaceuticals (\$298.59 million).

The companies, Leavitt said, also are “making substantial commitments of their own in terms of people, capital and resources.”

The contracts support the advanced development of cell-based production technologies for influenza vaccines and will help modernize and strengthen the nation’s influenza vaccine production by creating an alternative to producing influenza vaccines in eggs. (See [related article](#).)

Standard egg-based vaccine production methods, developed more than 50 years ago, involve identifying which virus strains should go into a vaccine, then growing those strains in millions of fertilized chicken eggs before harvesting, purifying and killing the viruses and using them in vaccines.

The process is time consuming and uses about 100 million eggs each flu season in the United States alone. The egg-based method is especially problematic for a potential H5N1 vaccine because the virus kills chicken embryos before much of the virus can grow.

Cell-based vaccine manufacturing – a technology used in many other modern vaccines – is a more reliable, more flexible and more scalable method of producing flu vaccines.

The cell-culture method involves growing animal or human cells in the laboratory in a nutrient solution. The virus is injected into the cells, and cells and viruses multiply. Then the cells’ outer walls are removed and the virus is harvested, purified and inactivated.

Cell-culture-based flu vaccines could help meet surges in capacity needs in the event of a shortage or pandemic because cells can be frozen in advance and large volumes grown quickly.

“We have the opportunity to be the first generation that prepares for pandemic,” Leavitt said. “Our current capacity of egg-based influenza vaccine production is not sufficient to meet increased demands during an emergency. Accelerating the development of this vaccine technology and creating domestic capacity are critical to our preparedness efforts.”

## BEING PREPARED

The new contracts decrease U.S. dependence on egg-based manufacturing, but the method is still useful.

Health and Human Services has contracted with vaccine makers Sanofi-Pasteur and Chiron to create nearly 4 million courses of vaccine against the H5N1 bird flu virus using conventional egg-based techniques.

The vaccines, Leavitt said, “will be stored in our strategic national stockpile until and if they are needed.”

He acknowledged that the stockpiled vaccine will not be a perfect match for a mutated virus, but said it will provide some protection until a more specific vaccine can be made available.

His department also is pursuing more advanced flu technologies. Scientists at the National Institutes of Health are collaborating with pharmaceutical companies to develop a library of live vaccine candidates against all known influenza strains that have a pandemic potential. Such a library would give researchers a head start on developing vaccines for emerging flu strains.

Researchers also are working to develop DNA vaccines, in which the genes of an influenza virus are inserted into a harmless virus that is then used as a vaccine. Such new-generation vaccines would be broadly protective against a wide range of influenza viruses. (See [related article](#).)

The challenges to developing such vaccines “are substantial,” Leavitt said, “but if we could get there, it would take the threat of a pandemic right off the table.”

Health and Human Services is continuing to stockpile anti-viral drugs, ventilators, masks and hospital gloves, and is expanding its domestic and international surveillance efforts and enhancing our state and local preparedness.

“By leading the way to the development of new technologies,” Leavitt said, “we will also be helping other nations be prepared. We’ll be coordinating with other nations to do this, to assure that we are taking advantage as best we can of the advances that are occurring in other nations.”

The [full text](#) (PDF, 234 pages) of the *National Strategy for Pandemic Flu Preparedness Implementation Plan* and [related information](#) are available at the department’s Web site.

(The Washington File is a product of the Bureau of International Information Programs, U.S. Department of State. Web site: <http://usinfo.state.gov>)

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