
CABLE Gram
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CABLE Gram Volume 2 Issue 32

18 May 2005 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

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Take care,

Zhi

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.

Issues covered in the *CABLE Gram* include: Homeland Defense, Homeland Security, Terrorism, Federal Law Enforcement, First Responders, Money Laundering, Identity Theft, NBC Weapons, Cybercrimes, Smuggling, Narco Trafficking, Hazardous Materials and other related topics.

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 – please type *CABLE Gram* in the subject line.

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

FEDERAL

1. US-VISIT Stops Murderers, Pedophiles and Immigration Violators From Entering The United States Through Biometrics and International Cooperation (PRNewswire, 17 May 2005)

WASHINGTON - A Department of Homeland Security (DHS) program that collects biometric and biographic data from visa applicants and visitors to the United States has achieved unprecedented results in helping U.S. agencies identify criminals and other violators seeking entry to the country, senior DHS officials announced today. On Sunday evening, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers sent a Swiss national, suspected of being a pedophile, back to France as his fingerprints indicated that he was wanted by Interpol.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/050517/cgtu046.html?.v=7>

2. Secretary Mineta Unveils National Rail Safety Action Plan to Address the Future Safety and Vitality of America's Railways (PRNewswire, 16 May 2005)

WASHINGTON - A new plan to improve safety along the nation's railroads was unveiled today by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta during a visit to Columbia, S.C. The plan will help prevent train accidents caused by human error, improve the safety of hazmat shipments, minimize the dangers of crew fatigue, deploy state-of-the-art technologies to detect track defects, and focus inspectors on safety trouble spots.

Secretary Mineta today outlined the new National Rail Safety Action Plan, which represents the Department of Transportation's aggressive new approach to improving safety throughout the railroad industry. The plan will target the most frequent, highest-risk causes of accidents, focus federal oversight and inspection resources, and accelerate research into new technologies that can vastly improve rail safety.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/050516/dcm060.html?.v=4>

3. Hazmats ride rails alongside commuters (The Free Lance-Star, 15 May 2005)

EVERY WEEKDAY, commuters on Virginia Railway Express and Metro are close to hazardous materials being hauled on CSX freight trains, which, like VRE and Metro, run through Washington. Just how hazardous are these materials, and are they a likely target for terrorists? In February, the District of Columbia enacted a law forbidding rail shipments of hazardous materials. CSX is seeking to overturn the law, arguing that rerouting trains west from Richmond through Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York would add hundreds of miles and days of transit time. The law was prompted by a July 18, 2001, fire in a CSX rail tunnel in Baltimore and by the terrorist attacks two months later.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2005/052005/05152005/1761182>

4. Explosives security beefed up at LAX (UPI, 13 May 2005)

Washington, DC - Explosives detection security has been beefed up at Los Angeles International Airport, the Transportation Security Administration announced. The TSA said it has just installed a new explosives detection trace portal that will be used to screen passengers at LAX Terminal One. The equipment is part of a pilot program to test and evaluate the trace portal for screening passengers for explosives.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20050513-054450-3722r.htm>

5. HHS Announces \$1.3 Billion in Funding to States for Bioterrorism Preparedness (PRNewswire, 13 May 2005)

WASHINGTON - HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt today announced that the department has made available another \$1.3 billion to the states, territories and four metropolitan areas to help strengthen their capacity to respond to terrorism and other public health emergencies. "Our ability to respond effectively to public health emergencies is an important part of securing our Homeland," Secretary Leavitt said. "These funds will help us build on the progress we have made the past three years with our state and local partners, and will result in a stronger system to care for Americans in emergencies, whether it be a bioterror attack or an infectious disease outbreak like SARS or West Nile virus." The funds will be used to upgrade infectious disease surveillance and investigation, enhance the readiness of hospitals and the health care system to deal with large numbers of casualties, expand public health laboratory and communications capacities and improve connectivity between hospitals, and city, local and state health departments to enhance disease reporting. These emergency preparedness and response efforts are intended to support the National Response Plan and the interim National Preparedness Goal.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/050513/dcf027.html?.v=7>

6. Prosecutor Of Failed Terror Case Resigns (AP, 16 May 2005)

The chief federal prosecutor in a Detroit terrorism case that fell apart because of prosecutorial misconduct resigned on Monday. Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Convertino, a 15-year veteran of the U.S. Justice Department, is under investigation by the department over his handling of the case. The department is also investigating his handling of two 1990s drug cases. Convertino said in a statement that he had been

looking for the right time to leave and that the opportunity to defend Jay Morningstar, a Michigan state trooper charged with murdering a homeless man, provided "the right reason."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/index.php?nid=104&sid=519871>

7. Jet from Italy to Boston diverted to Maine (AP, 17 May 2005)

BOSTON, Massachusetts - An Alitalia jet en route from Milan, Italy, to Boston was diverted to Maine on Tuesday because the name of a passenger on board matched that of a person on the U.S. government's no-fly list. Flight 618 landed shortly before 1 p.m. after Canadian and U.S. fighter jets escorted the Boeing 767 to Bangor, where it was met by federal agents. It had been due to arrive in Boston about the same time. The Transportation Security Administration is "working with Alitalia to determine how the passenger was allowed to board the aircraft," TSA spokeswoman Yolanda Clark said. The nationality of the passenger was not immediately known.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/05/17/flight.diverted.ap/index.html>

8. Base realignment plan would cut 18,000 civilian jobs (GovExec.com, by George Cahlink, 16 May 2005)

More than 18,000 Defense Department civilians will see their jobs eliminated or contracted out as part of the Pentagon's recommendations for closing and realigning military bases. "Our current arrangements, designed for the Cold War, must give way to the new demands of the war against extremism and other threats of the 21st century," Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said in a prepared statement Friday. The Pentagon wants to close 33 major bases, realign 22 more and make hundreds of other changes at smaller bases. Those recommendations will be reviewed by an the independent Base Realignment and Closure Commission this summer, which will then prepare a final list for President Bush by Sept. 8. The president has until Sept. 23 to accept or reject the list before sending it to Congress, which has 45 legislative days to reject it or the recommendations become law.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0505/051305g2.htm>

9. U.S. Worried About Intellectual Property in Philippines (Philippine News, 16 May 2005)

MANILA — The United States has expressed concern over the implementation of intellectual property laws in the Philippines. Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick told a press briefing on Thursday that while anti-piracy laws have been passed, not all violators have been sent to jail. "We respect the advances that have been made but we believe that there's some more steps to be taken," he said. Zoellick issued the statement in a visit here. He was asked to comment on the Philippines' reported inclusion in a U.S. blacklist of piracy hubs. In the first quarter of 2005 alone, 279 incidents of intellectual property theft (brands, trademarks and copyrights) valued at \$396 million have been reported. They accounted for 33% of global counterfeiting and piracy, according to a report by the Canada-based Gieschen Consultancy.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H5B72181B>

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

10. AZ: Third man charged in case of weapons smuggling (Yuma Sun, 14 May 2005)

A third person has been charged in Yuma Justice Court with allegedly using fake identification to buy semi-automatic weapons intended to be smuggled into Mexico. Augustin Vasquez, 23, of 18125 Avenue 3_E, was charged with eight felonies, including conspiracy to commit misconduct involving weapons, fraudulent schemes and artifices, taking the identity of another and five counts of forgery in the alleged buying of an AK-47 for Juan Carlos Zurita-Vidal. Zurita, 28, of Tijuana, Baja Calif., was charged last week with 17 felonies for illegally purchasing 15 weapons, including 10 assault rifles, he allegedly planned to smuggle into Mexico to pay off a \$45,000 debt he owed.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
http://sun.yumasun.com/artman/publish/articles/story_16613.php

11. AZ: Arizona To Receive An Additional \$26 Million for Bioterrorism Preparedness (All American Patriots, 16 May 2005)

Gov. Janet Napolitano said last week that Arizona is slated to receive another \$26 million in federal funds to bolster the state's ability to respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Y5976581B>

12. CA: DRC05: Examination of New Agroterrorism Threats, Lessons Learned Kick Off Opening Day of Disaster Resistant California Conference (Business Week, 16 May 2005)

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - An examination of the terrorist threat to California's agriculture industry and lessons learned by state agricultural officials highlight Monday's opening session of the fifth annual Disaster Resistant California Conference. Sponsored by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the Collaborative for Disaster Mitigation (CDM), the three-day conference at the Hyatt Regency will help emergency managers from government and private-sector organizations throughout California and the world in their efforts to reduce deaths, injuries and property losses in future disasters through professional development courses, demonstrations of technological innovations and lessons learned by colleagues in the Sumatra tsunami, the 2003 Southern California wildfires and the Columbine shootings.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E3873281B>

13. CT: Southington awaits bioterrorism grant approval (Bristol Press, 16 May 2005)

SOUTHINGTON - The Health Department is about to receive approval for the final portion of an \$82,000 federal bioterrorism grant that will help the department develop response plans for anthrax attacks and pandemic influenza.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?U6F85261B>

14. FL: More patrols target human smuggling (The News-Press, 17 May 2005)

Southwest Florida has become a major launching pad for smugglers bringing Cubans into the United States, according to authorities. As a result, the Collier County sheriff's marine patrol of eight boats and eight deputies is being pressed into service to try to break up the human smuggling operations, Sheriff Don Hunter said. The force has been bolstered with a \$250,000 federal grant. An indicator of the smuggling trend is the recent seizure by marine patrol deputies and Coast Guard personnel of a boat loaded with 700 gallons of fuel that was found off Everglades City, sheriff's Sgt. Dave Johnson said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H5072481B>

15. FL: Miami company sentenced for hazardous transport (South Florida Business Journal, 13 May 2005)

A U.S. District Court Judge has sentenced an air, ocean and motor carrier firm for violating federal regulations on transporting hazardous materials. The Miami-based corporation received three years of probation. Judge Patricia A. Seitz also sentenced Laparkan Trading to pay a \$75,000 criminal fine and two community service payments totaling \$60,000 to the Miami-Dade Police Department units involved in hazardous materials investigations and emergency response.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?O1172481B>

16. IL: Effingham Smuggling Arrest (WEIU, 13 May 2005)

The operator of two local Mexican restaurants is arrested on federal charges of smuggling cash across the U.S. and Mexico border. 41-year-old Daniel Angel-Onate was arrested by Effingham City Police on Wednesday. He's also charged with transporting monetary instruments of more than 10-thousand dollars into the U.S. from Mexico. Effingham County jail records show Angel-Onate was released into federal custody just hours after being booked.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.weiu.net/news/archive/newsbuilder/2005/may/0513/restartrest.htm>

17. IN: Stopping identity theft with the Great Shred Event (WNDU, 14 May 2005)

South Bend, IN - Stopping identity theft took center stage Saturday morning at WNDU, as we gave you a chance to shred personal documents. Even with the rain, many turned out for the Great Shred Event. It was a way to help folks avoid becoming victims of identity theft. A company called Shred-It brought in a large shredder to slice and dice papers, some dating back to the 1940's. "I brought five bags of papers from 1947, (which included) income tax papers, all kinds of souvenir papers," said Sandra Lynch, who was just one the many who came out to shred potential identity theft documents. "It's time to get rid of all this stuff in my garage."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.wndu.com/news/052005/news_42201.php

18. MA: Planning for the unexpected (Sentinel and Enterprise.com, 16 May 2005)

LEOMINSTER - Smallpox takes hold of the city and residents scramble to find refuge. Police officers stand on street corners, directing commuters to four parking lots spread around town, where they'll park, then quickly board buses bound for safety. These buses will carry people to four city buildings labeled "Emergency Dispensing Sites." The scenario seems like something out of a movie, but it could someday become reality. Leominster city officials are working up a similar emergency readiness plan to guard residents against an outbreak of disease or a bioterrorism attack. "It's been in the works for years, since 9-11," Now we're looking at sites to go, say, if a communicable disease spreads," said Leominster Health Director Christopher Knuth.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.sentinelandenterprise.com/ci_2734090

19. ME: Identity theft: Think before you throw (Village Soup, 16 May 2005)

MIDCOAST – Local postmasters from Belfast, Lincolnville Beach and Camden say identity theft is a growing problem at the local level. According to the United States Postal Inspection Service, last year 10 million Americans were the victims of identity theft, which cost them more than \$5 billion. Their message: Never, ever throw first class mail in the recycling container or in the trash. "Please take it home and shred it," said Lincolnville Beach Postmaster Mike Gallant. "Identity theft is a big problem. Don't throw it in our rubbish." Gallant said he knows of one local man who was the victim of identity theft, though it wasn't clear how the personal information was acquired. Thousands of dollars of goods and services were illegally charged to the victim's credit card.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://belfast.villagesoup.com/Community/story.cfm?storyID=54693>

20. NH: Counterfeit postal money orders can scam consumers and businesses (Citizen Online, 16 May 2005)

You cannot believe your luck! Someone has just offered to pay you more than the purchase price for merchandise you are selling on the Internet. All you have to do is accept a postal money order as payment; keep the price of the item and a bit extra as a "gift" for your help and wire the remainder of the funds to your customer. Is this deal "too good to be true"? Yes, advises the Better Business Bureau, which warns consumers and businesses to exercise care when approached by eager buyers requesting "help" cashing domestic or international postal money orders. The "buyer" often claims to be living in a foreign country. These scam artists target private citizens, as well as small Internet retailers and classified advertisers located in the U.S. Sometimes the scam artists use e-mail and online auctions to perpetrate this fraud; other times, the telephone.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K1272181B>

21. NY: Bills seek shield against identity theft (AP, 16 May 2005)

ALBANY - Proposals that would crack down on identity theft and boost protections for personal and financial information are gaining critical support and headed toward law this

year, said key New York lawmakers on both sides of the aisle. A slew of bills is pending in the state Senate and Assembly to fight identity theft. They would, among other things, allow consumers to put security freezes on credit lines to keep information from being released. Others would require information brokers to notify consumers when a report containing their phone numbers, bank account information, income, medical information and other information is disseminated.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E6681361B>

22. NC: A New Bill to Prevent Identity Theft is Proposed (AP, 17 May 2005)

Lawmakers will vote this week on a new bill that would make it harder for identity thieves to steal personal information. Karen Baggett of Burlington spoke to the House Judiciary Three Committee about how her name was used repeatedly by a criminal. Baggett described how easy it was for another woman to use her name as an alias, and how difficult it was for Baggett to clear her record.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/news/051705_APstate_xgridentifytheft.html

23. OH: Chain gang revived by Butler County sheriff (AP, 15 May 2005)

HAMILTON, Ohio - Black and white stripes are back in vogue for Butler County prisoners now that the sheriff has resurrected work gangs of shackled inmates to pick up litter along ditches. Butler County Sheriff Rick Jones, who has been in office five months, says he hopes the inmate work program that began last Monday will make the county cleaner and inmates more productive. "It is going to be controversial, and I'm OK with that," Jones said. "In my chain gangs, nobody is going to be mistreated, but they are going to have to work."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ohio.com/mld/beaconjournal/news/state/11654537.htm>

24. TN: Tennessee Granted Bioterrorism Level Funding (the Chattanooga.com, 13 May 2005)

Nashville - Governor Phil Bredesen and Health Commissioner Kenneth Robinson, M.D., announced today that Tennessee will receive an additional \$24,819,340 in bioterrorism preparedness grant funds from the Federal Government, a continuation of funding from the previous year. "I'm pleased that our strong local and state coordination on homeland security in Tennessee has helped bring in additional federal funds to protect all Tennesseans," Gov. Bredesen said. "Tennessee continues to make strides that effectively strengthen our ability to ensure the protection and well-being of citizens in the event of a bioterrorism threat or other public health emergency. These funds will go a long way in increasing our statewide response to emergencies." The funds will improve the abilities of hospitals, public health agencies and medical laboratories across the state to respond to public health emergencies. The grant will provide an increased capability to recognize and report disease outbreaks, allowing a more rapid response to these public health emergencies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_66892.asp

GANG ACTIVITY

25. FBI task force Mara Salvatrucha gang born in Los Angeles (AP, 15 May 2005)

Los Angeles - A street gang formed 20 years ago in the immigrant neighborhoods west of downtown has become the target of an FBI task force — the first nationwide effort to target a single street gang. The crackdown on the Mara Salvatrucha gang, also known as MS-13, was ordered by FBI Director Robert Mueller after several high-profile murders blamed on the gang in the suburbs of Washington. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials last week also announced the addition of David Rivera, a known MS-13 member, to its list of most wanted fugitives. Rivera, who is wanted for ignoring a deportation order and for questioning about a string of murders, is the first MS-13 gang member to make the Immigration and Customs Enforcement most wanted fugitive list.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2005/05/15/state/n054309D17.DTL>

26. AZ: Border Patrol arrests man with alleged ties to MS-13 gang (AP, 16 May 2005)

TUCSON - U.S. Border Patrol agents announced the arrest Monday of a man believed to have ties to a Central American-influenced street gang that has spread violence in cities and suburbs nationwide. A group of 17 suspected illegal immigrants were spotted Saturday and a fingerprint check identified one of the men as Omar Nunez-Jairo, who authorities allege is a member of the Mara Salvatrucha gang, also known as MS-13. Authorities said Nunez, 29, of Honduras, has an arrest history in the United States for various crimes.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/0516az-gangarrest16-ON.html>

27. CA: LA Violence Crosses the Line - A brutal band born near MacArthur Park has spread to 33 other states and five countries. For the first time, the FBI forms a nationwide task force to go after a single gang (By Chris Kraul, Robert J. Lopez and Rich Connell, Times Staff Writers, 15 May 2005)

The gruesome murders were each more than 1,000 miles apart, an arc of bloodshed that spanned much of the North American continent. On a rutty street near a crowded slum in Honduras, gunmen sprayed automatic weapons fire at a bus filled with Christmastime shoppers. Twenty-eight people, including six children, were killed. In the woods near Dallas, an innocent 21-year-old man was shot in the head, his remains eaten by animals. His pants were pulled down, and police suspect that he may have been sodomized.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://ktla.trb.com/news/local/la-me-gang15may15.0.6871918.story?coll=ktla-news-1>

28. CT: Prosecutors: Mob extortion deserves 2 years prison (AP, 16 May 2005)

NEW HAVEN, Conn. - Federal prosecutors have asked a judge to put a reputed Rhode Island mobster in jail for at least two years for shaking down a Stamford strip club owner. Alfred "Chippy" Scivola Jr. pleaded guilty in February to attempted extortion but denied being a member of the New England Mafia. Prosecutors said Scivola was part of a

dispute over control of two Stamford strip clubs, with Rhode Island mobsters competing with New York's Gambino family for monthly protection payments. Prosecutors said Scivola's shakedown failed only because Anthony Megale, the reputed No. 2 man of the Gambino family, stepped in.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?V3782161B>

29. FL: School sets gang awareness meetings for parents (*Palm Beach Post*, 15 May 2005)

A few years back, an Okeechewee Middle School administrator found himself educating a parent whose child had elaborate drawings of crowns on the student's belongings. The parent didn't know the doodles honored a large national gang, the Latin Kings, with local tentacles. "They thought the kid liked to go to Burger King," Principal David Samore said. Continuing his efforts to teach parents, Samore will host a series of meetings with parents next week at which a gang expert will discuss how to recognize gang involvement in such groups and how to prevent it.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C4372281B>

30. IN: Medics urged to note gang signs - Rivals trade barbs via cyberspace before taking to the streets with guns, spray paint, says local expert (*News-Sentinel*, 14 May 2005)

Gang activity decreased in Fort Wayne in the mid-1990s but is now increasing again, according to one local expert. Health-care workers who find themselves treating more stabbing and gunshot wounds should take note of gang symbols tattooed on their victims' bodies and keep in contact with police, Robert Rinearson, supervisor of safety and student management for Fort Wayne Community Schools, said during a symposium Friday at the Fort Wayne Marriott, 305 E. Washington Center Road. The discussion at the symposium, attended by about 190 physicians, nurses, first-responders and other medical professionals, centered on activities that produce trauma and how to respond accordingly.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/fortwayne/news/local/11648427.htm>

31. MA: Cop nabs 2 in gang shooting (*Boston Herald*, 15 May 2005)

An alert Boston cop working a detail in the South End sprung into action after he heard shots fired at a crowded coffee shop and helped collar two gang members allegedly responsible for the shooting. The officer, working at the corner of Washington and Rutland on Friday morning, stopped a Roxbury teenager and then helped flush out his apparent Mattapan accomplice, Hub police said. Police said the juveniles were among four gang-banging teens who opened fire on their rivals outside Flour, a toney South End coffee shop near Boston Medical Center. No one was injured in the shooting, but the errant bullets crashed through the rear window of a MINI Cooper and terrorized cafe-goers taking morning coffee.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bostonherald.com/localRegional/view.bg?articleid=83143>

32. NY: Reputed snakehead starts New York trial for Golden Venture immigrant smuggling voyage (AP, 16 May 2005)

NEW YORK -- The woman who allegedly financed the treacherous 1993 Golden Venture voyage that ended in the deaths of 10 Chinese immigrants went on trial Monday in Manhattan federal court, accused of running an international human trafficking ring out of a Chinatown storefront. Cheng Chui Ping, 56, known as "Big Sister Ping," was "one of the most powerful and successful smugglers of aliens of our time," prosecutor David Burns said in opening statements. Defense attorney Lawrence Hochheiser called his client an honest businesswoman who was framed by Chinese gang members.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P2982161B>

33. NC: School board to vote on gang-related attire ban (Charlotte Observer, 15 May 2005)

Gaston County Schools wants to tweak its dress code policy to ban possible gang-related attire from classrooms. The school board is set to vote Monday on a plan that would prohibit students from wearing any clothing or accessories that local law enforcement agencies have identified as gang-related. Under the plan, Superintendent Ed Sadler would review the dress code each year and recommend changes as needed. The board will vote on the policy during its regular meeting, set for 7 p.m. Monday in the district's headquarters at 943 Osceola St. in Gastonia.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?N2A93161B>

34. TX: Police say slaying was gang-related (Star-Telegram, 16 May 2005)

ARLINGTON - An Arlington teen-ager found slain inside a pickup Sunday was the victim of a gang-related, drive-by shooting, police said Monday. The 17-year-old, whose identity is being withheld until next of kin are notified, was found fatally shot inside a blue Chevrolet pickup in the 2400 block of East Park Row Drive, police said. The truck was reported leaving the scene of a shooting earlier in the 800 block of Salem Street and chased by a black Honda sedan, Arlington police spokeswoman Christy Gilfour said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/news/11661009.htm>

35. Two Convicted, Two Acquitted in Gang Slaying (Washington Post, 17 May 2005)

A federal jury delivered a mixed verdict today in the slaying of a 17-year-old federal witness, convicting two members of the violent Mara Salvatrucha street gang of killing Brenda Paz but acquitting two other gang members. The 12-member jury in U.S. District Court in Alexandria found Ismael Cisneros, 26, and Oscar A. Grande, 25, guilty in the 2003 death of Paz. Jurors acquitted Denis Rivera, 21, and Oscar Garcia-Orellana, 32.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J3472581B>

36. VA: Officials Fear Spread of Gang Activity From Washington (Washington Post, 15 May 2005)

On the fringes of Northern Virginia, and a little beyond, gang activity flares up only occasionally and without much violence, law enforcement officials say. Neighborhood mobs and small street gangs sell drugs and spar over territory, but it is only occasionally that police in such jurisdictions as Spotsylvania County find members of more notorious gangs from Prince William and Fairfax counties doing business. Law enforcement officials in the Rappahannock region, about 50 miles from the Capital Beltway, fear that the minimal gang activity they have seen could get worse. They believe that the crackdown on major gangs such as Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13, in the closer-in Washington suburbs could easily push many members to move down Interstate 95, into their steadily growing exurbs. To stanch that flow and prevent a minor problem from morphing into a crisis, law enforcement officials in the four Rappahannock jurisdictions - Spotsylvania, Stafford and King George counties and Fredericksburg -- are banding together this summer to share intelligence and monitor gang activity.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C1A83261B>

37. Central American gangs head north (International Herald Tribune, 16 May 2005)

Last December, gunmen opened fire on a bus driving through Chamalecon, Honduras, killing 28 passengers. The attackers were members of a notorious street gang known as Mara Salvatrucha - or MS-13 - and the slaughter was meant as a warning against the government's recent crackdown on gang activities in the country. A few months later, U.S. officials arrested the alleged mastermind of the attacks in Texas. His arrest - and his crime - were only the latest sign of the growing power of Central America's gangs, and their worrisome ability to shuttle between their home countries and the United States. In the past few years, as Washington has focused its attention elsewhere, it has virtually ignored a dangerous phenomenon growing its backyard: Ultraviolent youth gangs, spawned in the ghettos of Los Angeles and other U.S. cities, have migrated south to Central America, where they have transformed themselves into powerful, cross-border crime networks. And now the gangs are starting to head back north.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.iht.com/articles/2005/05/15/opinion/edarana.php>

NARCO TRAFFICKING

38. AK: Meth lab raided in Salcha (news-miner.com, 14 May 2005)

Alaska State Troopers uncovered a clandestine methamphetamine laboratory in Salcha on Thursday after a tip from the Alaska Office of Children's Services. Two people, John Rawls, 24, and Jessica Nehren, 25, were arrested and two children, ages 1 and 6, are in state custody, according to a statement from the Department of Public Safety. "We found a large number of chemical samples," said Sgt. Ron Wall of the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement. "There were more liquid samples at the lab than we normally see." Investigators and hazardous materials technicians spent about 11 hours dismantling the suspected lab, at 7201 Rolling Stone Court, Wall said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.news-miner.com/Stories/0,1413,113~7244~2869674,00.html>

39. 'Drug baron' escapes Mexico jail (BBC, 16 May 2005)

Federal authorities in Mexico are investigating the escape of an alleged drugs baron from a prison in the capital, Mexico City. This comes after another breakout from a jail earlier this month in a different part of the country. The man now said to be on the run is Otto Roberto Herrera Garcia. Until his April 2004 arrest at the city's airport, he was one of Central America's most wanted, accused of moving tons of cocaine into the US.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4548155.stm>

40. Drug smuggling along India-Nepal border unearthed (WebIndia123, 16 May 2005)

New Delhi - India's paramilitary force Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) claims to have found evidence of drug smuggling across the India-Nepal border, but has been unable to link it to the funding of the Maoist war chest. In the last few months, SSB has seized over 1,000 kg of marijuana and five kilograms of cannabis from various couriers sneaking in through the porous border. "There are well organised criminal gangs on both sides of the border. Because of better intelligence, we have had some major seizures but we have no evidence to show it is funding the guerillas," said SSB Inspector General Kulbir Krishan.

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<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M3B82661B>

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

41. Feds eye new cybersecurity post (c|net, 16 May 2005)

For the last few years, it hasn't always been clear who in the U.S. government is responsible for overseeing national "cybersecurity" efforts--and how long that person will stick around. First there was Richard Clarke, a veteran of the Clinton and first Bush administrations who cashed out with a lucrative book deal. Clarke effectively was succeeded in quick succession by Howard Schmidt, known for testifying in favor of the Communications Decency Act, then Amit Yoran and Robert Liscouski. Now Congress may try to quell some of the turmoil over at the Department of Homeland Security by creating a more prestigious post. On Tuesday, the House of Representatives is scheduled to begin deliberating a proposal for an assistant secretary for cybersecurity.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Z1C82261B>

42. Identity Theft – More Than Just a Security Threat (IT-Observer Staff, 17 May 2005)

Phishing and identity theft attacks continue to increase dramatically, according to an independent survey of consumers, conducted by First Data Crop. The survey found that almost seven percent have been victimized by identity theft and 45 percent have received a phishing contact. Phishing attacks are a growing form of attempted identity theft in which consumers are contacted usually contacted via fraud e-mails that try to lure them

into providing information about them. Phishing attacks usually “query” victims for personal information such as Social Security Number and financial information – bank accounts, credit cards etc.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ebcvg.com/articles.php?id=722>

43. Extortion via DDoS on the rise (Network World, 16 May 2005)

Criminals are increasingly targeting corporations with distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks designed not to disrupt business networks but to be used as tools to extort thousands of dollars from the companies. Those targeted are increasingly deciding to pay the extortionists rather than accept the consequences, experts say. While reports of this type of crime have circulated for several years, most victimized companies remain reluctant to acknowledge the attacks or enlist the help of law enforcement, resulting in limited awareness of the problem and few prosecutions.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P5D81261B>

44. Pentium 4 loophole could let in hackers (c|net, 16 May 2005, Contributed by Rick Forno)

Intel is acting to calm fears that technology in its Pentium 4 processors will enable hackers to steal passwords by reading 'footprints' in the cache. Hyperthreading, introduced in Intel's Pentium 4, could allow hackers to access secure information, according to Colin Percival, a 23-year-old Ph.D. student from Vancouver. The technology makes software run faster by letting two threads run on the same processor at the same time. Percival has developed a sophisticated attack based on timing, which exploits the fact that both processes can access the same cache memory. The attack, revealed on Friday in a paper delivered at the BDSCan conference in Ottawa, relies on a spy process installed on the server and sharing the L2 cache with an OpenSSL cryptographic process. The spy process observes the time taken for certain cache operations and deduces what the other process is doing (which Percival refers to as "footprints in the cache"), gathering information that could help crack the desired password.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T6575281B>

45. New Worm Targets AIM Users (John E. Dunn, Techworld.com, 16 May 2005, Contributed by Rick Forno)

Users of AOL's instant messaging software, AIM, should be on the lookout for an innovative new worm, variously named "Oscarbot-B" and "Doyorg" by antivirus companies. The Windows-based malware emerged early this week, and has made itself a nuisance for its ability to hijack the list of contacts or "buddies" in an infected user's IM account. After opening a window to any one of these contacts with the message "Hey check this out," it invites users to follow an embedded link. Anyone who clicks on this will risk becoming its next victim. On machines where infection is successful, the worm creates a backdoor into Internet Relay Chat to download and run files on the instruction of the attacker, giving remote access to that PC.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.pcworld.com/news/article/0.aid.120848.00.asp>

COUNTERFEIT

46. FL: Deputies bust alleged counterfeiter (NBC2 News, 16 May 2005)

FORT MYERS — Deputies say a fugitive graduated from producing fake checks to manufacturing counterfeit \$20 bills. James William Jenkins, 36, was apprehended Sunday after a tip from a cab driver who was allegedly paid with one of the fake 20s. The investigation began February 20th, when deputies arrested two people for passing phony checks at two Lee County businesses. Investigators traced the checks to a home on Elkton Court in Fort Myers Villas and got an arrest warrant for Jenkins, but he was gone by the time deputies arrived.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbc-2.com/articles/readarticle.asp?articleid=3336&z=3&p>

47. FL: Man accused of making counterfeit cards (Florida Today, 17 May 2005)

Fellsmere police charged one man with possessing materials to make fake driver's licenses and Social Security cards and another man with obstruction of justice after executing search warrants. Manuel Pimentel Perez, 24, of North Cypress Street, was arrested after a search of his home revealed camera equipment and blank Social Security cards, said Det. J.W. Hyde of the Indian River County Sheriff's Office. Authorities said Perez is accused of selling fake Social Security cards and permanent resident cards for \$110 each.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?G1674181B>

48. GA: SPD arrests more in Ga. counterfeiting ring (The Daily Sentinel, 17 May 2005)

The Scottsboro Police Department made three more arrests Sunday evening in connection with the Georgia counterfeiting ring. According to Major Ralph Dawe and Capt. Ron Latimer, officers responded to a call of using a false identification and counterfeit checks at a business on John T. Reid Parkway at 8:30 p.m. Approximately two hours later, the trio was arrested at a local hotel. Virginia Ann Shinholster, 52 years old, of Atlanta, Ga. was charged with four counts of possession forged instrument second-degree, one count second-degree possession of marijuana, one count identity theft and one count third-degree theft.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thedailysentinel.com/story.lasso?ewcd=f001bb473dbe94d4>

49. MA: Counterfeit drugs leave real casualties (By Christopher Rowland, Globe Staff, 15 May 2005)

Big drug companies and federal regulators have spent several years warning American consumers and politicians about the dangers of importing prescription drugs from Canada and other countries. Their main argument: importation will serve as a conduit, carrying dangerous counterfeits into the American pharmaceutical distribution system. This

argument, however, has been consistently undercut by an unsettling fact: Our domestic supply chain is already full of holes. Most of the counterfeit drugs discovered circulating in the US distribution chain have been introduced by unscrupulous wholesalers in the United States.

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<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P2B91561B>

TECHNOLOGY

50. 'Real ID' Faces Reality - The federal government wants driver's licenses that are more trustworthy and tech-enabled. State IT leaders will have to figure out how to make that happen (Information Week, 16 May 2005)

Delaware CIO Thomas Jarrett bumped into Michael Shahan, director of the state's Division of Motor Vehicles, a few days after Congress passed the Real ID Act last week. The bill, which also was signed by President Bush last week, will set national standards for driver's licenses, raising privacy hackles about a de facto "national ID card" and technology and security worries about how data will be stored and shared among states and with the federal government. Yet there aren't enough details available right now to let those concerned do much more than worry. "I told him we need to have a conversation about it," Jarrett says of his colleague at Motor Vehicles. "But at this point, I'm not exactly sure what needs to be done." Congress didn't spend much time debating the merits of the measure, which has been discussed in various forms several times since Sept. 11, 2001. This time, it got tacked onto a bill to fund American troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. The key provisions of the bill are that states by 2008 will need to verify data with the feds and other states before issuing driver's licenses, and the cards must include certain minimum data and be "machine readable."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=163102234>

51. Airport X-ray might show a bit too much (USA Today, 16 May 2005)

The agency in charge of the nation's air security expects later this year to begin testing a controversial X-ray machine that will show airport screeners a clear picture of what's under passengers' clothes -- whether weapons or just bare skin. Screeners plan to test the "backscatter" machines at several U.S. airports, the Transportation Security Administration says. The refrigerator-sized machines are considered a breakthrough in scanning technology but have been labeled "a virtual strip search" by the American Civil Liberties Union. Security workers using the machines can see through clothes and peer at whatever may be hidden in undergarments, shirts or pants. The images also paint a revealing picture of a person's nude body.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?W1E82361B>

52. More Cities Deploy Camera Surveillance Systems with Federal Grant Money (Epic Alert, 16 May 2005, Contributed by Rick Forno)

President Bush's proposed \$2.57 trillion federal budget for Fiscal Year 2006 greatly increases the amount of money spent on surveillance technology and programs while

cutting about 150 programs—most of them from the Department of Education. EPIC's "Spotlight on Surveillance" project scrutinizes these surveillance programs. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has requested more than \$2 billion to finance grants to state and local governments for homeland security needs. Some of this money is being used by state and local governments to create networks of surveillance cameras to watch over the public in the streets, shopping centers, at airports and more. However, studies have found that such surveillance systems have little effect on crime, and that it is more effective to place more officers on the streets and improve lighting in high-crime areas³ There are significant concerns about citizens' privacy rights and misuse or abuse of the system. A professor at the University of Nevada at Reno has alleged that the university used a homeland security camera system to surreptitiously watch him after he filed a complaint alleging that the university abused its research animals. Also, British studies have found there is a significant danger of racial discrimination and stereotyping by those monitoring the cameras.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.epic.org/privacy/surveillance/spotlight/0505.html>

OPPORTUNITIES

53. Border Patrol seeks more personnel, might enlist citizen patrols (GovExec.com, by Chris Strohm, 16 May 2005)

The U.S. Border Patrol needs thousands more agents and is considering how to effectively use volunteer citizen patrols, a senior homeland security official told House lawmakers Thursday. "We need more Border Patrol agents, there's no question about that," Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Robert Bonner told members of the House Government Reform Committee. CBP is in charge of the Border Patrol. Bonner said his team has worked up a proposed increase in agents. He said the number is in the thousands but declined to be more specific, saying he still has to walk the plan through the Homeland Security Department.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0505/051305c1.htm>

EVENTS

54. The 2005 ASIS National Capital Chapter's annual seminar on Countering Terrorism

...will be held in Mclean, VA on Wednesday, June 15 from 0830 to 1630. Cost is \$95 prior to 31 May and \$115 after that "early bird" date. Email Jennifer@terrorism.com.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.asis-capital.org/terrorism-05.php>

FULL REPORTS

55. U.S. Will Enforce Machine-Readable Passport Requirement June 26 - Document will be needed by Visa Waiver Program travelers (Dept. of State, 13 May 2005)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has announced that effective June 26 all Visa Waiver Program travelers will have to present a machine-readable passport (MRP) for visa-free entry into the United States, but it says the requirement will affect only about 0.35 percent of travelers currently entering the United States under the program.

The Visa Waiver Program (VWP) enables citizens of 27 countries to visit the United States for tourism or trade for up to 90 days without obtaining visas.

Speaking May 12 at the Foreign Press Center in Washington, Elaine Dezenski, the department's acting assistant secretary for border and transportation security policy, announced that on June 26 DHS will end an "interim procedure" to assist VWP travelers which has allowed immigration officials to grant a one-time waiver for entry into the United States to VWP travelers without MRPs.

All VWP travelers will need a machine-readable passport to enter the United States without a visa from that date on, and carriers will be fined \$3,300 for transporting any VWP traveler to the United States without a MRP, Dezenski said.

The U.S. Congress originally set October 1, 2003, as the date by which VWP travelers would need to present a MRP in order to enter the United States without a visa, but that deadline was postponed for 23 of the 27 VWP countries until October 26, 2004. Homeland Security's "interim procedure" has been in effect since that date, Dezenski said.

"VWP travelers arriving in the U.S. on that date [June 26] without a MRP should not anticipate being granted one-time entry into the country [without a visa]," she said.

Over the past six months, an average of about 147 travelers per day from VWP countries have attempted to enter the United States without a machine-readable document -- about 0.35 percent of the total visa-waiver travelers entering the United States, she said. "So it is a very small percentage."

All VWP countries have programs in place to issue MRPs, and more than 42,000 VWP visitors enter the United States every day with MRPs, she said. The U.S. government first issued MRPs in 1981.

"But the reality is 147 people is still too many, and we want to make sure that we get that number as close to zero as possible," the official said.

The highest percentage of VWP travelers without MRPs come from France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Norway and Japan, she said.

Dezenski said the U.S. government has engaged in an ongoing effort to inform possible VWP travelers of the congressionally mandated requirement to present a MRP for visa-free entry into the United States.

“The U. S. government is deeply committed to working with our international partners to secure our borders while continuing to welcome legitimate foreign travelers and trade,” she said.

She and Randy Beardsworth, the department’s acting under secretary for border and transportation security, agree that MRPs will expedite the entrance process to the United States.

“The machine-readable passport benefits foreign visitors as much as it does homeland security,” said Beardsworth in a May 12 press release. “With one fast swipe, front line officers can pull up the information that they need to process legitimate travelers quickly. At the same time, this immediate information access enables our officers to focus even more on identifying and interdicting potential threats.”

Machine-readable passports include two optical-character, typeface lines at the bottom of the biographic page of the passport that, when read, deters fraud and helps confirm the passport holder's identity quickly. (See [sample image of a machine-readable passport](#).)

Visa Waiver travelers who are not in possession of machine-readable passports may apply for a nonimmigrant visa at a U.S. Embassy or consulate abroad if seeking entry for business or tourist visits to the United States. Information on the Visa Waiver Program and how to apply for a U.S. visa is available at www.travel.state.gov and www.unitedstatesvisas.gov.

“You have two options -- you can either obtain a passport that has a machine-readable function, or you could certainly apply for a visa,” Dezenski said.

The following 27 countries are currently in the VWP: Andorra, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

DHS said the machine-readable passport requirements do not affect the separate congressionally mandated deadline requiring VWP country passports issued on or after October 26, 2005, to contain biometrics in order to be used for visa-free travel to the United States. See also, “[Congressional Panel Chair Urges Biometric Passport Deadline Be Met](#)”

“All of the VWP countries are working very closely with us to communicate information about these news requirements to all of their citizens,” Dezenski said.

“We hope to see the number of [VWP] travelers without MRPs reduced even more between now and June 26... and we will continue to work with our international partners to educate the public about this new requirement,” she said.

Following are the texts of a DHS press release, a DHS “Frequently Asked Questions” document, and a State Department media note on the announcement:

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M2775281B>

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