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29 May 2007 CABLE Gram™

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Congressional Research Service Report May 17, 2007

74. "Detection of Explosives on Airline Passengers: Recommendation of the 9/11 Commission and Related Issues," Congressional Research Service Report updated April 26, 2007

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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

FEDERAL

1. US agencies' terrorism record criticized (AP, 29 May 2007)

Washington - US immigration agencies say anti-terrorism is their primary mission, but they tried to deport only 12 people on terrorism-related charges from 2004 through last year, according to a private research study. That group of 12 represents a tiny fraction of the 814,073 people the government tried to remove from the country during those three years. The authors of the study, released on Sunday, acknowledge the figure understates the anti-terrorism effort by the Homeland Security Department's immigration agencies. In addition, because no one knows how many terrorists are in the US or tried to get in, there is no way to say whether the figure of 12 is too low, too high or about right.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/world/archives/2007/05/29/2003362949>

2. Bush tries to blunt immigration deal criticism - Focus on more agents, fences and employment verification (MSNBC, 29 May 2007)

WHITE HOUSE - President Bush attacked opponents of an immigration deal Tuesday, suggesting they "don't want to do what's right for America." "The fundamental question is, will elected officials have the courage necessary to put a comprehensive immigration plan in place," Bush said against a backdrop of a huge American flag. He described his proposal - which has been agreed to by a bipartisan group of senators - as one that "makes it more likely we can enforce our border - and at the same time uphold the great immigrant tradition of the United States of America."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/18918545/>

3. Fingerprint Dispute Dooms Border Site (Washington Post, 24 May 2007)

Plans for a screening facility at one of the nation's busiest land-border crossings were abandoned because of a disagreement over fingerprinting travelers, an outcome that has angered business groups in the United States and Canada. Canadian business leaders are in Washington this week to lobby for the resumption of a U.S. plan to build a "pre-clearance" facility at the border near Buffalo that would speed commercial and passenger traffic from Canada into the United States. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff scuttled the initiative last month because Canada would not accept Washington's demand that it fingerprint travelers on Canadian soil who approach the border but, for whatever reason, decide not to cross.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/ywdbnz>

4. Canada steps up marine security by issuing new ID cards to port workers (Canadian Press, 24 May 2007)

TORONTO - Transport Canada announced Thursday it is creating mandatory identity cards for workers at the country's major ports in a bid to step up maritime security and combat potential terrorist threats. The cards will be implemented in Vancouver, Halifax

and Montreal in December, with other ports following next year. The Marine Transportation Security Clearance Plan also includes background checks for port workers who have access to secure areas like loading docks and fuelling stations.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/yu5ujd>

5. High-tech travel ID 'inevitable' - The next step in border security is DNA in passports, report warns (Carly Weeks, CanWest News Service, 28 May 2007)

Canadians will inevitably have to carry travel documents with their DNA, biometrics or other biological identifiers embedded into them in order to travel to the United States, according to a new white paper to be revealed to government officials in Ottawa today. While many travellers and governments are frantically trying to comply with current border regulations that require passports for air travel, the report warns that's just one step in the movement toward more secure borders. In order to adequately confirm an individual's identity and speed up the process of screening passengers, governments will surely move to enhanced identity documents that use biological information to identify travellers, the paper says.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

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

6. Extortion taints U.S. guest worker program (AP, 27 May 2007)

MONTERREY, Mexico - Standing in the baking sun outside the U.S. Consulate in Monterrey, hundreds of Mexicans wait anxiously for temporary work visas. But even before they were fingerprinted and interviewed for the permit, many already had paid recruiters thousands of dollars in hopes of easing the way. Supplying the U.S. guest worker program is a complex and sometimes criminal network of foreign recruiters who extort money from poor migrants and then keep them on the job by forcing them into debt or threatening their families back home. Employers also are often at the recruiters' mercy, forced to accept workers who could be desperately in debt or simply wrong for the job. And when their brief glimpse of the American dream becomes a nightmare, some legal guest workers simply disappear, melting into the growing U.S. population of illegal immigrants.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/yry4wy>

7. TSA unveils TWIC prices, enrollment options for port workers, drivers (Land Line Magazine, 22 May 2007)

Truckers who enroll in the Transportation Workers Identification Credential program can't pay with cash or a personal check, but the federal government does accept Visa and Mastercard. The Transportation Security Administration recently released enrollment procedures for the TWIC program, which is expected to enroll 770,000 port workers, truck drivers and others who want unescorted access to major U.S. ports. TSA plans to have 130 enrollment stations, including many mobile enrollment stations where applicants will be digitally photographed, fingerprinted and pay the enrollment fee. The agency recently outlined four steps in the process, including pre-enrollment, gathering of personal documents needed to enroll, enrollment and picking up TWIC card.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.landlinemag.com/todays_news/Daily/2007/May07/052107/052207-05.htm

8. Key senators reject proposal for stand-alone FEMA (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 24 May 2007)

Two key senators said Tuesday it would be a terrible mistake for Congress to take up legislation again that would remove the Federal Emergency Management Agency from the Homeland Security Department, saying reforms passed into law last year are showing improvements in the government's ability to deal with disasters. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Chairman Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., and ranking member Susan Collins, R-Maine, were unified during a hearing in their opposition to another major overhaul of FEMA. Lieberman said he "personally would do everything" he could to fight any legislative attempt to do so.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37004&dcn=e_gvet

9. Group urges funding of civilian units to back up Guard (By Megan Scully, CongressDaily, 23 May 2007)

With National Guard units continuing to deploy overseas in large numbers, a Washington-based think tank Monday urged the federal government to provide funding for a civilian corps in every state to serve as a backup to the Guard during natural disasters and other domestic crises. In its report "Caught off Guard: The Link Between our National Security and Our National Guard," the Center for American Progress recommended increasing the Homeland Security budget by \$1 billion to establish a corps of doctors, firefighters, city planners and other emergency officials in each state. Over the last several years, 23 states and Puerto Rico have set up -- and funded -- civilian corps, which typically report to the top National Guard official in each state and fill in any gaps left when Guard units deploy, said Lawrence Korb, a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress and the Pentagon's personnel chief during the Reagan administration. In Virginia alone, the volunteers logged roughly 1.3 million working hours last year.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36990&dcn=e_gvet

10. Panel to pave way for massive bio-defense facility (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 24 May 2007)

The House Homeland Security Committee plans to mark up a bill quickly after next week's recess to authorize a massive new bio-defense facility, paving the way for a high-stakes competition that some believe will bring billions of dollars in jobs and commerce to the winning congressional districts. At least five lawmakers on the committee, including its chairman, represent districts that stand to benefit if the facility is built in or near them, according to an analysis by *CongressDaily*. The authorization bill will give the Homeland Security Department authority to enter into a contract and begin construction on the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, a state-of-the-art center for researching and protecting against biological threats to humans and animals.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37012&dcn=e_gvet

11. Planning key in port security (The Examiner, 23 Ma 2007)

BALTIMORE - Safety first - but not before planning. At the Second Annual Homeland Port Security Conference at the Maryland Port Administration Cruise Terminal in Baltimore, businessmen, military officers, government officials and port executives met to discuss safety issues regarding America's ports. Hosted by the U.S. Naval Institute, the daylong conference addressed issues such as liquefied natural gas terminals, maritime domain awareness, container screening and steps following a possible attack. One clear message was repeated throughout the day: The more work done now, the better the port will be prepared when something happens. "With what we don't know about terrorist capabilities, it's imperative that we prepare with both private and public dollars," said Jim Loy, former U.S. Transportation Secretary.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/yv7jx8>

12. The Bahamas: Gov't Wants To Boost Ship Registry (The Bahama Journal, 23 May 2007)

The Bahamas is hoping to boost its ship registry from the third largest in the world to number one with the help of one of the country's closest and most significant trading allies. It is precisely one of the reasons why the government sought to renew its commitment with officials of the Port of Palm Beach, the 4th busiest port in Florida and the 18th busiest in the United States. Minister of Maritime Affairs and Labour Senator Dion Foulkes officially made that move Tuesday, a key step in fulfilling one of the promises outlined in the governing party's Manifesto 2007 - to establish linkages in the economic sectors.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.jonesbahamas.com/?c=45&a=12705>

13. New Copyright Alliance hopes to strengthen copyright law (ARS Technica, 18 May 2007)

A new industry-backed Copyright Alliance was launched yesterday in Washington, DC, with the goal of "promoting the value of copyright as an agent for creativity, jobs, and growth." But the group wants to do more than simply get the word out about the value of copyright- it wants to actively strengthen current copyright law. Backed by organizations like the MPAA, NBC, News Corp., Disney, Time Warner, the Business Software Alliance, Microsoft, ASCAP, the NBA, and others, the Copyright Alliance has already secured initial support from several members of Congress. Rep. John Conyers (D-MI) and "Hollywood" Howard Berman (D-CA) both sent statements of support, and Rep. Howard Coble (R-NC) made sure that the launch was a bipartisan affair.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/yspnb4>

14. Over Here (New York Times, by Lawrence J. Korb, 27 May 2007)

The National Guard cannot perform both its domestic and overseas missions at the same time, as the recent debate over whether Kansas possessed sufficient National Guard troops and equipment to respond to the tornado that leveled Greensburg has highlighted.

To put it bluntly, the members of the Guard cannot protect us here if they are fighting over there. As this nation conducts what the administration refers to as the global war on terrorism, the stress on the Guard will not change. When the all-volunteer military was created, the National Guard was intended to act as a strategic reserve. It was meant to serve as a bridge to conscription should a protracted conflict occur.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/05/27/opinion/27korb.html?th&emc=th>

15. Report: IRS Failing When It Comes To Fighting Terrorism (AP, 25 May 2007)

The Internal Revenue Service does a poor job in identifying tax-exempt groups that may have links to terrorists, according to a report released Friday. IRS investigators look at paper documents and use a limited terrorist watch list to pinpoint possible ties between charitable and other nonprofit groups and terrorists, said the office of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which does independent oversight of the tax agency. As a result, it said, "There is a risk that these charities will not be reported to the federal government authorities fighting terrorism." Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., responding to the report, said that "shutting down terrorist financing is one of the biggest challenges facing our country in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks. It's disturbing that the Treasury Department does not require the IRS to use the most basic tool for fighting terrorism financing: a comprehensive watch list."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wcsh6.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=61612>

16. Private Guards Weak Link in Security (AP, 29 May 2007)

Legions of ill-trained, low-paid private security guards are protecting tempting terrorist targets across the U.S. Richard Bergendahl is one of them. He fights the war on terrorism in Los Angeles, protecting a high-rise office building for \$19,000 a year. Down the block is an even taller skyscraper, identified by President Bush as a building chosen for a Sept. 11-style airplane attack. Bergendahl, 55, says he often thinks: "Well, what am I doing here? These people are paying me minimum wage." The security guard industry found itself involuntarily transformed after September 2001, from an army of "rent-a-cops" to protectors of the homeland. Yet, many security officers are paid little more than restaurant cooks or janitors.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=1152580>

17. Fort Dix Suspect Applied for Police Jobs (AP, 23 May 2007)

One of the men accused of plotting to attack soldiers at Fort Dix had recently applied to be a police officer in two big cities _ a move some authorities believe may have been an effort to infiltrate law enforcement agencies. Serdar Tatar, 23, applied for a job in Philadelphia last month, police spokesman Sgt. D.F. Pace said Wednesday. "Based on what we know now, I don't think his intentions were good," Pace said. Tatar also applied for a job in the Oakland, Calif., Police Department, according to a law enforcement official speaking on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=1135346>

18. American extradited on terror charges (CNN, 26 May 2007)

NEW YORK - An American citizen has been extradited to the United States from Great Britain, charged with providing material support to al Qaeda, a federal prosecutor said. "This is the first extradition on terrorism charges from the United Kingdom, and it has yielded a defendant who provided material support to al Qaeda," Michael Garcia, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, said Saturday. The suspect, 27-year-old Syed Hashmi, arrived in the U.S. on Friday. He was arrested in June 2006 at London's Heathrow Airport. Federal prosecutors say Hashmi is the first American citizen to be extradited from the United Kingdom on terrorism charges. Hashmi is originally from Pakistan.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/LAW/05/26/terror.suspect/index.html>

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

19. AL: Alabama Revises State Terrorism Web Site After Including Pro-Lifers (LifeNews.com, 28 May 2007)

Montgomery, AL - If you're a member of a pro-life organization, there's a chance you could be among those who are involving in plotting terrorist attacks against the United States. That was the view of the Alabama state terrorism web site until recently, when state officials took it down to revise its content in the face of a huge outcry. The Alabama Department of Homeland Security put together a web site that was partially intended to help state residents spot possible terrorists and report them to officials. The only problem was that the site included several various political groups on the site, including gay and lesbian groups, anti-war organizations, and pro-life advocates. They fell under the heading "single-issue" terrorists.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.lifeneews.com/state2310.html>

20. AZ: Minuteman group expels dissenting officers (Herald/Review, 24 May 2007)

BISBEE - At least two state-level officers of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps have been expelled from the civilian border-watch group after raising questions about its executive leadership, particularly that of MCDC President Chris Simcox. In a May 8 memo that surfaced on the Internet this week, 18 members of the MCDC's state chapter leadership committee asked Simcox, Vice President Carmen Mercer and Executive Director Al Garza to attend a May 19 meeting in Phoenix to address a number of perceived problems, including a lack of financial accountability and Simcox's domineering leadership style. Simcox responded with a May 14 memo denouncing the meeting, as well as the state chapter leadership committee itself, as unauthorized and subversive.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

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

21. AR: Emergency workers prepare for the worst (Baxter Bulletin, 25 May 2007)

If a bioterrorism event happens in Mountain Home, emergency workers are prepared. A drill conducted Thursday by the North Central Regional Bioterrorism Preparedness Planning Committee, a group that plans tabletop and live drills to prepare emergency personnel for a bioterrorism event, received high ratings from an outside company. Baxter Regional Medical Center Safety Director Gary Hoornstra said the drill was evaluated by Tech Solutions, a company approved by Homeland Security to review drills around the country.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2o7pau>

22. CA: Lawmakers Crack Down Dangerous Materials Transported - In Hopes To Avoid Freeway Disasters (ABC Local, 24 May 2007)

The impact of that tanker truck accident has lawmakers talking about new rules concerning the transport of hazardous materials. Assemblyman Pero Nava, (D) Santa Barbara: "The overarching concern is safety to members of the public." No one wants another devastating accident to cripple commutes on a major California freeway. Last month's fiery crash caused by an overturned tanker in Oakland is prompting state lawmakers to crack down on drivers and companies that haul hazardous materials.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=local&id=5336968>

23. CA: Trucking firm involved in Maze fire loses hazardous materials permit (Contra Costa Times, 25 May 2007)

On a day that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger touted the 25-day repair of a collapsed MacArthur Maze ramp as the "best side" of government Friday, the trucking company involved in the fiery April 29 gasoline tanker wreck that weakened the ramp lost its license to carry gasoline. The California Highway Patrol slapped Sabek Trucking of South San Francisco with an indefinite suspension of its hazardous materials transportation license, in effect killing its only business of hauling gasoline to about 20 Bay Area convenience stores. It was the first time the state suspended any trucking company since 1992, when the law empowering the Highway Patrol commissioner to do so was enacted. Although the safety inspection that led to the suspension was precipitated by the tanker crash, CHP officials said it is not linked to the crash itself. CHP investigators continue to probe the wreck, but will not release information until it is completed, said Officer Mike Wright, a CHP spokesman.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_5991764

24. FL: Florida checks for port security guards stringent but not foolproof (AP, 29 May 2007)

Burson Augustin was arrested last June, charged with plotting to blow up the Sears Tower and conspiring to help al-Qaida blow up federal buildings in major cities across the country. Augustin and two co-defendants from Miami's Liberty City neighborhood also had something else in common: the state of Florida had issued them private security guard licenses. Florida has some of the most stringent licensing background checks in the country, officials and private security company executives said. But the arrests on

terrorism charges - which have not been proven in court - demonstrate that even a stringent system can't be foolproof. Without previous arrests or inclusion on a terrorism watch list, denying licenses to people Augustin would require the ability to see the future.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/38sb3d>

25. FL: Tri-Rail, Miami Dade Transit Awarded Millions (CBS4, 29 May 2007)

MIAMI DADE South Florida will be getting a financial shot in the arm to beef up security on a pair of transit systems. The Transportation Security Administration is awarding the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, which runs Tri-Rail, nearly a million dollars in funding to enhance its security training program with special emphasis on specific security issues. The TSA also awarded more than two and half million dollars to the Miami-Dade Transit Authority to train security personnel in behavior recognition, immediate emergency response, and develop strategies to reduce the threat of terrorism.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://cbs4.com/topstories/local_story_149114719.html

26. FL: Raytheon undertakes security screening at two Florida airports (Washington Technology, 29 May 2007)

Raytheon Co. will provide passenger and baggage screening services to two South Florida airports through a \$16.3 million contract. Under the contract, Raytheon Technical Services Company of Reston, Va., will provide the services to Key West International Airport and Florida Keys Marathon Airport. Raytheon is teamed on the project with McNeil Security Inc., a unit of professional services company McNeil Technologies of Springfield, Va. Raytheon plans to offer jobs to existing Transportation Security Administration Key West federal transportation security offers. The screening services are being provided through the TSA Screening Partnership Program. Airport authorities since 2004 have been eligible under the program to submit an application to TSA to use private vendors.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.washingtontechnology.com/online/1_1/30756-1.html

27. KS: Board faces 'crisis' over levee repairs (The Hutchinson News, 29 May 2007)

Reno County Drainage District No. 3 can afford to hire an engineer to design a solution to a problem. But it doesn't have funds to fix the problem - and it's a big one. Two weeks ago, flooding on the Arkansas River swamped the district's levee system in eastern Reno County. Six thousand sandbags couldn't hold back water that caused breaches and blowouts. Repairs could cost an estimated \$539,495, according to the district board. The district levies 14 mills in property taxes and operates on an annual budget of slightly over \$7,000. Without money in the bank to pay a contractor and without written assurance of outside government aid, the district is in limbo.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.hutchnews.com/news/local/stories/Levee052307.shtml>

28. MD: Future looks bright for Baltimore port (The Examiner, 29 May 2007)

BALTIMORE - The Port of Baltimore already is ahead of the curve. By mid-June, the Maryland Port Administration hopes to have both the Dundalk and Seagirt terminals scanning 100 percent of incoming containers for radiation. Screening the containers with detection devices is a self-initiated move in the war on terrorism, state officials said. This is planned despite cuts to security infrastructure grants from the Department of Homeland Security. "Containers, per se, are not a threat but a means that can be exposed," Dr. Scott Truver, a national security expert, said at the Port Security Conference in Baltimore on May 22. In an interview with The Examiner, Brooks Royster, executive director of the MPA, discussed plans for the port.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.examiner.com/a-752198~Future_looks_bright_for_Baltimore_port.html

29. MD: Private role key in port security (Baltimore Sun, 23 May 2007)

Private companies need to "up the ante" in securing the nation's ports from terrorism, the nation's first homeland security chief said yesterday. "The public sector and the private sector have done a pretty good job, but there's more to do," Thomas J. Ridge told the second annual Homeland Port Security Conference, sponsored by the U.S. Naval Institute at the Maryland Port Administration's Cruise Terminal. Local officials echoed that sentiment after the federal government cut security funding for the Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore by more than 60 percent.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2y8stu>

30. MI: Police conduct underwater training exercises along Detroit river (The Detroit News, 24 May 2007)

DETROIT - The Detroit Police Department's Underwater Recovery Team will conduct a large-scale underwater simulated attack along the Detroit River today and Friday. Local, state and federal dive law enforcement agencies will take part in the two-day exercise -- dubbed Operation: Troubled Waters -- designed to test the region's response to a hazardous materials situation. Exercise scenarios will include oversized drums containing suspected hazardous materials, a sunken vessel, explosive mines, and the take-down of a suspicious vehicles on land.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/246fzl>

31. NY: NYC could get Guard WMD experts (AP, 22 May 2007)

NEW YORK - New York City may soon be able to add a team of experts on weapons of mass destruction to its lineup of emergency first responders, gaining access to a terrorism-fighting tool already in place in cities like Topeka and Boise but not here, lawmakers said. Lawmakers say the weapons team is crucial in New York City because of the general consensus that it is America's No. 1 terrorist target, although officials often claim that the city routinely gets shortchanged on federal homeland security funding. Known as a civil support team and made up of 22 members of the Army and Air Force National Guard, the "elite terror response team" would be on call for any crisis involving chemical, biological or radiological agents that could inflict mass casualties.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2007/05/ap_wmd_experts_070521/

32. PA: Estimated 600 Gallons Of Chlorine Gas Released At Power Plant (Bay City News, 24 May 2007)

PITTSBURG - An estimated 600 gallons of chlorine gas was released at a power plant in Pittsburg this morning, sending three plant employees to the hospital and prompting a shelter-in-place for the area. Most of the gas appears to be contained inside Calpine's Los Medanos Energy Center, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District spokeswoman Emily Hopkins said. Three employees at the plant were transported to the hospital after they inhaled the gas. The seriousness of their conditions was not immediately known. Chlorine gas can cause serious damage to peoples' lungs even at relatively low concentrations, according to Contra Costa Hazardous Materials Director Randy Sawyer. CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/yu27bf>

33. PA: Montco gains air sensors for bioterror alerts (By Margaret Gibbons, Special to The Phoenix, 26 May 2007)

NORRISTOWN - Five sentinels are now on guard in Montgomery County to provide county health and public safety officials with an early warning of a bioterrorism event. The federal Department of Homeland Security in the last two weeks has installed five "super-sensitive air monitors" designed to pick up biological contaminants, according to county Health Director Dr. Joseph M. DiMino. The location of those monitors is secret, he added. The filters in the monitors will be collected on a daily basis and tested at a state laboratory, he explained. If the filters test positive for pathogens such as smallpox or anthrax, "we will get an immediate report and can put our response plan into action," said DiMino. The monitors, part of the federal BioWatch program, now are on in place in Philadelphia and Allegheny Counties as well as Montgomery County, according to DiMino. Additional monitors eventually will be installed in other counties throughout the state, he said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/36cela>

34. PA: Port Authority gets federal grant for security cameras, gear (AP, 23 May 2007)

The Port Authority of Allegheny County will install digital security cameras at park-and-ride stations and on busways and make other security improvements with a \$928,250 federal grant. Security cameras were used to investigate the London subway bombings two years ago and the new cameras will be added to a network that already includes cameras on light-rail train platforms and bus garages, officials said. Port Authority police will be able to monitor the video images from laptop computers. About half of the federal money will be used for the video equipment. The rest will be spent on fences and other security improvements at bus garages, emergency training for authority workers, and a public awareness campaign.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2g2k4m>

35. SC: No port? No problem. County gets \$50,000-plus federal port security grant anyway (Island Packet, 25 May 2007)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security awarded Beaufort County \$55,785 in grant money for port security this year, though the county has no viable ports. The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office will use the grant, which requires a 25-percent match in local money, to purchase two boats for general enforcement, primarily in waters north of the Broad River, said Lt. Col. Neil Baxley, who coordinates grants for the Sheriff's Office. This is the first time the county has received grant money from the federal department's port security grant pool. "We were very surprised," Baxley said of the county's award.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/story/6529838p-5810191c.html>

36. TN: School leaders talk crisis plans (Jackson Sun, 26 May 2007)

School safety is a growing concern for parents and for local school administrators and public officials who want to be prepared in the event of a crisis. "If you have a student who's been shot at school or someone who has lost their life ... there's going to be emotion," Jackson Police Lt. Mike Siler told Madison County public and private school administrators Friday. Siler spoke during a morning session of the School Crisis Management and Safety Workshop at North Side High School. The SWAT Team commander explained how police officers train for the unexpected to help school officials understand how they can better confront major incidents.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/yt32m9>

37. TX: Strike at US nuclear weapons site raises security fears (Agence France-Press, 24 May 2007)

CHICAGO - A six-week strike by security forces at a nuclear weapons assembly facility in Texas has raised concerns that sites across the United States might be more vulnerable to terror attacks. More than 500 security officers walked off their jobs on April 15 at the Pantex Plant outside of Amarillo, Texas amid a deadlock with a government contractor over retirement benefits. About 200 replacement workers have been flown in from other sites across the country to protect the nation's only nuclear weapons assembly and disassembly facility.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.spacewar.com/2006/070524204935.rxjjfh2h.html>

KEY PEOPLE

38. FL: Virginia emergency director to be Dade's crisis manager (Miami Herald, 24 May 2007)

The new emergency management director of Miami-Dade County is C. Douglas Bass, a 20-year veteran of the field who had been serving in the same capacity in Fairfax County, Va., near Washington, D.C. The appointment of Bass, which ended a lengthy search, was announced Wednesday by County Mayor Carlos Alvarez. "It is with great confidence that I appoint this seasoned, innovative emergency-management professional to lead this vital public safety function," Alvarez said in a letter to county commissioners.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.miamiherald.com/460/story/116830.html>

39. HI: Agent is first woman to lead local FBI office (The Star Bulletin, 25 May 2007)

She is chatty, relaxed and likes "American Idol" -- not the stereotypical G-man image of FBI agents. But she has also busted drug cartels, and resolves to stay vigilant in fighting terrorism. Honolulu's new FBI chief, the first female in the position, will help stay the agency's course in protecting the nation's interests. "We cannot let our guard down," said Janet Kamerman, the FBI Honolulu division's new special agent in charge. "Part of my responsibility will be to look for things we don't know about." But that does not mean the FBI will be lax in local law enforcement, including drug investigations. In fact, 60 percent of the office is devoted to local law enforcement, with the rest focused on counterterrorism. Kamerman has taken over the FBI office with the retirement of Charles Goodwin in March. She brings with her 17 years of experience within the agency, including serving as special assistant to FBI Director Robert Mueller.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://starbulletin.com/2007/05/25/news/story12.html>

40. NJ: TSA Names Barbara Bonn Powell Deputy Federal Security Director for Newark-Liberty International Airport (Media Newswire, 25 May 2007)

NEWARK, N.J. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) today named Barbara Bonn Powell as deputy federal security director (DFSD) for Newark-Liberty International Airport. Powell has served as acting DFSD at Newark-Liberty since December 2006. As acting DFSD, Powell assisted the FSD with all federal security responsibilities, including management of a security workforce of over 1,300 men and women at one of the busiest airports in the country.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://media-newswire.com/release_1050372.html

GANG ACTIVITY

41. AZ: Arizona a growing gun smuggling route to Mexico (The Arizona Republic, 24 May 2007)

A weapon seized after a drug-war massacre last week at a Mexican border town was sold in Phoenix in another sign that southbound gunrunning and the firepower of drug cartels have accelerated in the last few months. "There is a war going on on the border between two cartels. What do they need to fight that war? Guns. Where do they get them? From here," said William Newell, special agent in charge of the Phoenix division of Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Last week, 22 people died near the Sonora mining town of Cananea. Drug smugglers executed four police, fled into the mountains and shot it out with Mexican federal authorities in an ensuing daylong battle. Newell expects the ongoing investigation to reveal that more weapons in the attack were sold in Arizona.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/0524gunssouth0525.html>

42. AZ: Congressman, immigration authorities to discuss smuggling crackdown (AP, 29 May 2007)

MESA, Ariz. - Congressman Harry Mitchell will ask federal and local officials today what Congress can do to help them crack down on the violent crimes of human and drug smuggling. The Arizona Democrat is hosting a round-table discussion with US Customs and Immigration officials, Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard and other authorities who work to combat crimes associated with illegal immigration.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kold.com/Global/story.asp?S=6581605>

43. CA: DEA Reveals More About Narco Money-Laundering Ring (The Santiago Times, 28 May 2007)

The United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) revealed last week that an informant working in Los Angeles, CA, gave them key records to help bring down a Colombian drug money-laundering ring operating in Chile. The ring was busted and its members jailed last April. The "Mazza Clan" laundered some US\$280 million in Colombian drug money through the Costa Brava exchange houses in Chile and through Associated Foreign Exchange (Afex) houses based in California, according to government prosecutors. The Afex employee in California agreed to inform DEA agents about any unusual activities at the exchange company. The report said the link to Chile was established when, "The informant recognized Turismo Costa Brava as one of Afex's clients and assured us that it transferred large sums in cash." The DEA report also shed light on the ring's connections to the Chilean Mazza cousins and will be used by U.S. attorneys in prosecuting gang members. The DEA linked the Mazza clan with Peruvian Sandro Veltit Hurtado, whose family controls the Amasban exchange house in Peru and maintains contacts with known Mexican drug traffickers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/28krx9>

44. ID: Man Jailed on Gang Related Kidnapping & Extortion Charges (KTRV, 29 May 2007)

Boise, Idaho - A man is in jail facing charges of kidnapping, theft by extortion and robbery in what police are calling a disturbing gang-related crime. Boise Police believe 20-year-old, Dexter Cadiente, Jr., and several other men grabbed a Boise man, beat him and held him for several hours against his will. Authorities also allege that the group threatened to kill the victim if he didn't give them \$500 by a specified deadline.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fox12news.com/Global/story.asp?S=6575946>

45. NJ: Hospital seminar helps nurses identify gang members - Staff told what tattoos, signs to look for on patients (Asbury Park Press, 24 May 2007)

TOMS RIVER - Juliet Batin, a nurse at Community Medical Center, was in the Emergency Room wing Tuesday when she saw a 19-year-old patient writing "666 MS 13" on the wall with black nail polish. At the time she figured he was in his own world and let him be. But after a seminar Wednesday by the State Parole Board, she started

thinking the patient may have been part of another world: a violent gang called MS 13 fond of satanic symbols and the color black. "If I had known, I'd have gone and maybe looked for more signs on him," Batin, a nurse for 16 years, said. "And now this is my first time opening my eyes.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/353yz4>

46. NM: City 'Buffers' Battle Graffiti (The New Mexican, 29 May 2007)

Greg Armijo and Joaquin Zamora were solemn Thursday as they painted over the graffiti on a concrete wall behind Big Lots on Cerrillos Road. "How sad that it cost him his life," said Gene Leyba, the city of Santa Fe's parks enforcement officer as he watched the men roll gray paint over a 6-inch square of concrete tagged with the word gue. "I hope this teaches the other taggers it can cost your own life to do something like this."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.freewmexican.com/news/62157.html>

47. NY: Alleged 'godfather' of Mafia in Montreal sentenced to 10 years (CBC News, 26 May 2007)

Vito Rizzuto, considered the godfather of the Mafia in Montreal, was sentenced Friday to 10 years in prison for his role in the murders of three alleged gang leaders. The judge in a New York City courtroom recommended the 61-year-old serve his time at the Ray Brook medium-security jail in upstate New York, near the Ontario and Quebec borders. Prison officials will have the final say where he serves. Vito Rizzuto, right, has been sentenced to 10 years in jail and fined \$250,000 US. (Ryan Remiorz/Canadian Press) Rizzuto, the man the RCMP call the "godfather" of Montreal, was arrested in Montreal three years ago and extradited to the U.S. last August.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/montreal/story/2007/05/25/rizzuto-sentence.html>

48. OR: ELF militants convicted of (dubious) "terrorism" (World War 4 Report, 24 May 2007)

Declaring fires set at a police station, an SUV dealer and a tree farm were acts of "terrorism," US District Judge Ann Aiken May 23 sentenced former Earth Liberation Front militant Stanislas Meyerhoff to 13 years in prison. Judge Aiken commended for informing on his fellow arsonists after his arrest, saying he had the courage to "do the right thing." But he said: "It was your intent to scare and frighten other people through a very dangerous and psychological act – arson. Your actions included elements of terrorism to achieve your goal."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ww4report.com/node/3931>

NARCO TRAFFICKING

49. AZ: Back-To-Back Busts Net \$9M In Cocaine, Meth (KPHO, 23 May 2007)

PHOENIX - U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized around \$9 million in cocaine and methamphetamines in back-to-back busts on Tuesday. Shortly before 4 p.m.,

officers processing commercial vehicles at the Nogales port of entry stopped a 37-year-old Sonora man as he attempted to drive a truck filled with peppers into the U.S. Officers said they noticed discrepancies in the man's paperwork and flagged the vehicle for a more thorough inspection.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kpho.com/news/13374691/detail.html>

50. AZ: Marijuana smuggling soaring, except in N.M. (AP, 27 May 2007)

TUCSON, Ariz. - Officials say seizures of marijuana being smuggled into the U.S. from Mexico are up across the Southwest this year, except for in New Mexico. Seizures in west and south Texas have shot up by 54 percent and have increased 14 percent in California. Just since October, law enforcement officers in Arizona have intercepted more than 675,000 pounds of pot. That's a 25 percent increase from the same period a year earlier. For the entire fiscal year that ran from October 2005 through September 2006, authorities nabbed more than 900,000 pounds. A Border Patrol spokesman credits more agents on the southern border, national guard soldiers and better technology for the increased amount of intercepted grass.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://kob.com/article/stories/S96367.shtml?cat=504>

51. CA: Dozens Arrested in Heroin Smuggling Ring (AP, 23 May 2007)

More than three dozen people have been arrested in connection with a ring suspected of smuggling \$35 million in Colombian heroin to New York and New Jersey through Mexico. Federal prosecutors in San Diego unsealed 10 indictments Wednesday, charging 44 people with a variety of drug trafficking, money laundering and counterfeiting charges. Couriers ferried heroin through the California border crossing at Calexico and then took it to San Diego, Phoenix, Las Vegas and Palm Springs for shipment to the East Coast, according to federal law enforcement officials. The contraband was sewn into jacket linings, rolled into jeans and concealed in baby blankets and table linens.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=1148814>

52. FL: Chase yields 2 suspects, 89 kilograms of cocaine (Palm Beach Post, 25 May 2007)

After a harrowing, hour-long chase off the coast of Boca Raton last month, federal authorities caught a man and a woman in the act of smuggling an estimated \$9 million worth of cocaine and heroin into the country, court documents said. The purported smugglers, 33-year-old Shawn Rolle of Freeport, Bahamas, and 35-year-old Lisa Stephenson, were taken into federal custody on April 3. The drugs, 89 kilos of cocaine and 1 kilo of heroin, were processed on April 9 by Delray Beach police crime scene investigators, according to a police report released Wednesday.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/358w4e>

53. GA: Atlanta Overhauls Police Narcotics Unit (AP, 23 May 2007)

Atlanta's police chief is replacing the entire narcotics unit that was scandalized last fall by the shooting death of a 92-year-old woman during a drug raid. The narcotics unit's training standards also will be rewritten to adopt federal drug agency practices, and 14 investigators are being added this month, with the goal of a new staff of 30 by the end of the year, Police Chief Richard Pennington announced Tuesday. A lieutenant with experience in the department's office of professional standards, William Trivelpiece, will be taking over leadership of unit, he said. "With new initiatives on the way to help restore confidence in the unit, we felt it important to start anew," Pennington said. The narcotics unit faced heavy criticism after the Nov. 21 shooting death of Kathryn Johnston. Three officers had burst into her home with a no-knock warrant based on false information that an informant had purchased drugs at the house.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=1148155>

54. LA: 167 pounds of cocaine found in tractor-trailer (KATC, 27 May 2007)

MONROE, La. - A holiday drug patrol found 167 pounds of cocaine in a tractor-trailer stopped for changing lanes improperly on Interstate 20, authorities said. The cocaine was under the mattress where an off-duty driver was sleeping when the rig was pulled over Saturday, the Ouachita Parish sheriff said in a news release. Alex Morcillo Jr., 36, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., and Jose Diaz, 29, of Colton, Calif., both were booked with possessing cocaine with intent to distribute and with conspiracy. Morcillo also was booked with improper lane usage.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.katc.com/Global/story.asp?S=6575061>

55. NJ: ICE Nabs 2 for Money Laundering Narcotics With Over \$775,000 in Cash (News Blaze, 29 May 2007)

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents today announced the arrests of two persons charged for allegedly laundering over \$775,000 in cash proceeds from illegal narcotics sales, in violation of Title 18 of United States Code (USC), Section 1956. On May 24, 2007, special agents from the ICE office of investigations in Newark, New Jersey arrested Everardo Antonio Munoz, 46 years-old, a Columbian national and lawful permanent resident of the United States, and Lilian Munoz, 43 years-old and a U.S. citizen, at Munoz's residence in Weehawken, New Jersey. In addition to the arrests, \$775,636 in cash was seized.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/3b5lbf>

56. NY: Cocaine ring busted, 27 arrested (Capital News 9, 25 May 2007)

Federal prosecutors have charged 27 people with conspiring to sell cocaine and crack. In the indictment, 19 people from Troy and five from Albany were charged. State Police and DEA officials said they arrested most of the suspects in raids early Thursday morning, and the Capital Region streets are safer because of the arrests. Police and DEA officials say they have busted up a major cocaine pipeline in the Capital Region. And now, more than two dozen people are facing drug charges. Our Steve Ference has the story. "We were able to dismantle a pipe-lining organization that had ties to the city, and we're able

to take off the streets some significant drug traffickers in the Capital District," said DEA Task Force Group Supervisor Tim McDermott.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

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

57. WI: Operation "High Roller" Takes Down Milwaukee Cocaine Distribution Ring (DEA, 23 May 2007)

Milwaukee – Gary G. Olenkiewicz, Special Agent in Charge of the DEA's Chicago Field Division announced the arrest of ten members of a Milwaukee cocaine distribution organization. The arrests are the result of a long term DEA joint task force investigation dubbed "Operation High Roller" which began in October, 2004. The organization is alleged to have purchased approximately 20 to 30 kilograms per month from a source in Chicago and then distributed the cocaine in the Milwaukee area. The arrest warrants as well as six federal search warrants were issued out of the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Along with cocaine distribution, the organization is alleged to have invested drug proceeds in real estate, businesses and vehicles. The arrests took place over a four day period from May 8-11, 2007, and a grand jury out of the Eastern District of Wisconsin indicted 14 members of the organization on drug and firearm violations, in addition to the indictment of the organization's assets on May 22, 2007.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/newsrel/chicago052307.html>

58. Three heroin-smuggling rings smashed (Los Angeles Times, 25 May 2007)

Federal authorities say they have dismantled three major drug trafficking networks that smuggled Colombian heroin into the U.S. by sewing the powdery drug into clothing and suitcases. Forty-four people have been indicted in five countries, including Colombia and the Dominican Republic, as part of the four-year probe called "Operation Jacket Racket," which tracked the heroin pipeline. Much of the heroin, authorities said, was smuggled into the U.S. through the Calexico Port of Entry in California's Imperial Valley. Mexican smugglers wore custom-made clothing concealing the drugs, according to the indictments unsealed Wednesday.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chinapost.com.tw/international/110565.htm>

59. Costa Rica: One Metric Ton of Cocaine Seized from Boat in Pacific Waters (Tico Times, 23 May 2007)

A fishing boat carrying one metric ton of cocaine was seized by police and four fishermen were arrested Monday off the southern Pacific coast, according to a statement from the Public Security Ministry. The four arrested were identified by the last names Medina, Guzmán, Matarrita and Mora. The boat, named the "Argery," was carrying 50 20-kilo packets of cocaine. It was intercepted 10 nautical miles from Punta Llorona near Corcovado National Park. Officials aboard a U.S. Coast Guard boat, together with Costa Rican Coast Guard and Drug-Control Police officials, stopped it during a joint patrol.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.ticotimes.net/dailyarchive/2007_05/0523072.htm

60. Venezuela: Plane loaded with cocaine crashes in Venezuela (AP, 23 May 2007)

CARACAS, Venezuela: A small plane loaded with cocaine crashed in eastern Venezuela, killing the two people aboard and revealing a drug shipment that was seized by troops. National Guard soldiers confiscated 480 kilograms (1,058 pounds) of cocaine from the Cessna that crashed on Monday night, the attorney general's office said in statement Tuesday. The wreckage was found near the town of El Tigre, about 400 kilometers (250 miles) southeast of Caracas. The bodies of the pilot and another person were found in the Venezuelan-registered plane. Authorities did not give details about the suspected causes of the crash, nor details about where the plane departed from or was headed.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/28xxow>

61. Guyana: Cocaine in fish glue trio refused bail-despite lengthy plea from lawyer (Stabroek News, 25 May 2007)

After a lengthy bail application by one of the lawyers representing the three men facing charges relating to the recent find of \$100 million in cocaine hidden in fish glue, Magistrate Yohannseh Cave refused them bail when they appeared at the Vigilance Court yesterday. Although another man admitted to owning the drugs and was sentenced to eight years in prison, the prosecution was advised to proceed with the charges against the others.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.stabroeknews.com/index.pl/article_general_news?id=56520967

62. Peru: Shining Path turns from Mao to cocaine (Gulf-Times, 27 May 2007)

LIMA: Peru's Shining Path guerrillas could be gaining strength again more than a decade after they almost disappeared, but they are now more active in the cocaine trade than in fomenting Maoist revolution. The group, which posed a major threat until its leadership collapsed in the early 1990s, is believed to have a few hundred active fighters split between two main coca growing areas, one in the Huallaga valley in the north and the other in south-central Peru, east of the Andes mountains. In a recent report, the US State Department said Shining Path was regrouping and could count on hundreds of armed combatants. It said it was "shorter on revolutionary zeal than its predecessor" but better funded due to its links to the drugs trade in a country second only to Colombia as the world's biggest cocaine producer.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/32ufgx>

63. Argentina: The scourge of Paco, crack cocaine's cousin - Argentine slum filled with 'living dead' (Los Angeles Times, 26 May 2007)

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina - The mothers of the neighbourhood known as Ciudad Oculta refer to them as "the living dead." They are the emaciated, hollowed-eyed young men, spectres huddled in corners, darting in and out of alleys, unconscious in debris-strewn lots and squalid homes behind the walls that earned this neighbourhood the name "Hidden City." Like all children, they once seemed filled with expectations, kicking soccer balls on the streets, running off to school with their backpacks, oblivious to the ubiquitous poverty surrounding them.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/39o7my>

64. Spain: Two tons of cocaine bound for Spain seized (Expatica, 28 May 2007)

MADRID - An investigation by Spanish police led to the seizure in Portugal of 2,200 kilos (4,845 pounds) of cocaine that was en route to Spain from Mexico. Police said the probe began at the beginning of May, when investigators learned of a Spain-bound container suspected of holding drugs. After determining that the ship carrying the suspect container was due to make a stop in the Portuguese port of Leixoes, Spanish police got in touch with their counterparts in the neighboring country.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.expatica.com/actual/article.asp?subchannel_id=81&story_id=40252

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

65. Terror And Crime Go Digital (by Rachel Ehrenfeld And John Wood, UPI Outside View Commentators, 23 May 2007)

New York - Emerging digital technologies to move money instantaneously and anonymously open up new possibilities for criminals and terrorists, while regulatory and law-enforcement agencies are limping far behind. On May 3, at the release of the 2007 Money Laundering Strategy, the U.S. Treasury spokesperson was pleased to note: "Focusing on well-established money laundering methods and emerging trends identified in the Assessment, we have created a robust strategy for combating money laundering, deterring criminals, and addressing areas vulnerable to exploitation." Yet the latest digital advances open to criminals and terrorists -- mobile phones or other mobile devices to secretly transfer money globally, or M-payments; gambling; and transfer of virtual money through online role-playing games, or RPGs -- are missing from this long-awaited government strategy.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.spacewar.com/reports/Terror_And_Crime_Go_Digital_999.html

66. Terrorism on the Internet: another Border to Protect one Country's Sovereignty (Internet Business Law Services, 23 May 2007)

"The Internet is a weapon in the hands of our extremist enemies," Senator Joe Lieberman, (I-Conn.) chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, said after the Senate's review of a recent report on how terrorists are using the Internet to spread their radicalism. At the beginning of May this year, the Senate Homeland Security Committee engaged in a deep analysis of how the Internet is being used by terrorist organizations to express their prejudice against the United States. This analysis included reviewing a recent report prepared on this subject, listening to the testimony of several Internet experts and the drafting the United States' response to this practice. The recent report on terrorism on the Internet reviewed by the Homeland Security Committee of the US Senate revealed that Al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations like "Jihadi" are using the Internet to recruit militants and raise funds for their organizations. Additionally, these organizations use flashy websites, video games, videos, and music to express their radical ideology, the report showed. Terrorists are hacking websites and posting training manuals

in inner directories where people may not notice them (this practice is called 'parasiting'); developing violent video games spreading the message that Islam is under attack and inviting to fight in its defense; and making hip-hop and rap music with melodies that call for violence, this report informed.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/277zxw>

67. USB - the Achilles' heel of data security (Secure Computing Magazine, by Peter Larsson, 29 May 2007)

Few can imagine going back to a world without tools for mobility. The ability to access and process digital information with laptops and other handheld devices has forever changed our lives. The ubiquitous use of such devices, however, has suddenly created an Achilles' heel for data security. That danger springs from the innocuous USB port, and any other plug-in interface used to transfer files to and from external storage devices.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/33t6ts>

68. Symantec worldwide study indicates data centres in crisis (ICTWorld, 23 May 2007)

Symantec has announced the findings of a study indicating that IT professionals worldwide struggle with the increasing complexity of data centre management while facing fewer resources. Respondents polled revealed that to ease management challenges, they are relying on several different technologies and methods including storage capacity management, virtualisation and Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) frameworks. Survey responses indicate that the growing volume of servers, applications and operating systems in today's data centres is contributing substantially to data centre complexity. Of the respondents surveyed, 85% cite an increase in the number of servers and applications as factors contributing to complexity in the data centre.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://mybroadband.co.za/nephp/?m=show&id=6501>

69. Audit: FBI network security still poor (Government Computer News, By Wilson P. Dizard III, 25 May 2007)

The FBI has failed to fully implement its IT security program and as a result its critical networks for exchanging law enforcement information remain vulnerable to misuse or interruption, the Government Accountability Office said in a [report](#) issued today. Bureau officials provided a written response incorporated in the GAO report that accepted many of the report's recommendations but rejected the congressional audit agency's characterization of the associated risks. The FBI cited the various measures it has implemented over the past five years to tighten and monitor network and IT security, such as the establishment of a 24-hour security watch center. The GAO technical review stated, "Certain information security controls over the critical internal network reviewed were ineffective in protecting the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information and information resources." FBI CIO Zalmai Azmi responded to the GAO report in a letter that cited the bureau's recent progress in the IT security field. He added that since the FBI activated the Information Assurance Section of its Security Division in April

2002, that organization has brought the bureau from the status of having only 8 percent of its IT systems accredited to having 100 percent of its systems accredited, as required by the Federal Information Security Management Act.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/44340-1.html

TECHNOLOGY

70. TSA Testing Liquid Explosive Screening Technology at U.S. Airports (TSA, 23 May 2007)

Washington, DC – May 2007 – The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced Tuesday (May 22) operational pilot testing at several of the nation’s largest airports of a technology capable of screening sealed bottled liquids for explosives. The first unit ready for pilot testing is called FIDO and is manufactured by ICx Technologies. Because the technology is performing well in pilot testing, TSA anticipates deploying up to 200 bottled liquid scanners to the nation’s busiest airports in FY 2007. “TSA moved quickly with DHS after last year’s liquid ban to accelerate the development of liquid explosive detection technologies,” said TSA Chief Technology Officer Mike Golden. “Though we do not anticipate changes to the liquid ban in the near future, this flexible and accurate new technology gives an important additional tool to our security officers.”

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://hospitality-1st.com/PressNews/TSA-052307.html>

71. ISU researchers use virtual reality to boost training (Times-News, 29 May 2007)

POCATELLO, Idaho - Researchers at Idaho State University are working on a virtual reality computer world they hope will help emergency services professionals prepare for catastrophes. Ramesh Ramloll, of the ISU Institute of Rural Health, has created a small town as part of his "Play2Train" program that includes a residential area, presentation hall, police station and hospital. Participants can set up "avatars," or characters, who can participate in training exercises. Ramloll said Play2Train could eventually replace physical simulations now commonly used by emergency services personnel when they train for disasters, in a way that holds the interest of participants longer than the models used now. Play2Train allows those setting up training scenarios to add simulated weather conditions such as snowfall, rain and lightning.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

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

RESOURCES

72. Terrorism Database (Charlottesville Newsplex, 29 May 2007) – Don’t Miss This!

The world's largest unclassified database of terrorist attacks is now online for the public to see. Researchers are hoping this will help responders in what to be on the look out for and how to respond. It’s called the Global Terrorism Database. With funding from the Department of Homeland Security a program called START or Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism created the base. Right now it includes information on 80,000 terrorist incidents that began as early as 1970 until 2004. Each of these attacks is cross

referenced on more than a 100 variables to help people find trends in terrorism they may not be specifically looking for. Among information on bombings, assassinations, and kidnappings the site details over a 1,000 attacks on U.S soil. The idea for this database began five years ago. START will update the website including recent years within the next 12 months. The database is located at:

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.start.umd.edu/data/gtd/>

**73. "Homeland Security Department: FY2008 Request for Appropriations,"
Congressional Research Service Report May 17, 2007**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/RL34004.pdf>

**74. "Detection of Explosives on Airline Passengers: Recommendation of the 9/11
Commission and Related Issues," Congressional Research Service Report updated
April 26, 2007**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/RS21920.pdf>

**75. "Crime and Forfeiture," Congressional Research Service Report updated May 9,
2007**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/97-139.pdf>

76. CRS: Terrorists increasingly rely on crime (UPI, 29 May 2007)

Terrorists are increasingly relying on criminal activity to finance their operations, a new study from Congressional Research Service says. State-sponsorship is declining and terrorists groups are increasingly decentralized and more amateur, CRS finds, which leads the cells to crime. "It appears that small semiautonomous terrorist cells in many countries have discovered they are capable of conducting violently disruptive activities without extensive financial and/or logistical support and as such numerous cells appear to have turned to precursor criminal activities to do just that," states the report, posted by the Federation of American Scientists, a think tank and advocacy group in Washington. The terrorists who carried out the London bus bombings did so for less than \$10,000.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/2j1jw5>

FULL REPORTS

**77. Rewarding Illegal Aliens: Senate Bill Undermines The Rule of Law (The
Heritage Foundation, by Kris W. Kobach, D.Phil., J.D. and Matthew Spalding,
Ph.D., WebMemo #1468, 23 May 2007)**

The most controversial component of the Senate's Secure Borders, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Reform Act of 2007 is Title VI, euphemistically entitled "Nonimmigrants in the United States Previously in Unlawful Status." It would create a new "Z" visa exclusively for illegal aliens. This title would change the status of those

who are here illegally to legal, essentially granting amnesty to those "previously in unlawful status." This seriously flawed proposal would undermine the rule of law by granting massive benefits to those who have willfully violated U.S. laws, while denying those benefits to those who have played by the rules and sometimes even to U.S. citizens.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Immigration/wm1468.cfm>

78. Old and New Emerging Diseases Threaten Nations Worldwide - U.S. agencies work together to monitor the spread of contagions (By Cheryl Pellerin, USINFO Staff Writer, 24 May 2007)

This is the third in a series of articles on the U.S. contribution to global disease surveillance.

Washington -- In the days before high-speed travel and international commerce, a disease that arose in a country usually stayed in that country. Today, viruses are globetrotters, carrying, for example, sub-Saharan Africa's Rift Valley fever to the Arabian Peninsula, and West Nile virus to Idaho and Colorado in the United States.

Many viruses are transported by mosquitoes that arrive in a country on aircraft or in shipping containers. The insect influx cannot be stopped completely, but scientists at the Center for Medical, Agricultural and Veterinary Entomology, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service, are working at home and overseas to keep Rift Valley fever and other diseases out of the United States. (See [related article](#).)

For Rift Valley fever -- a viral disease associated with heavy rainfall that affects cattle, sheep, goats and camels, and for people has a 1 percent fatality rate -- the work begins in sub-Saharan Africa, said center Director Kenneth Linthicum in a recent *USINFO* interview.

"If we can detect that an outbreak is occurring in some part of Africa," he said, "there are things we can do to help that country heighten their surveillance effort and help them conduct their own observations -- and also help ourselves here."

MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE

With NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and the U.S. Defense Department's Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System, the center participates in a program that uses satellite measurements of rainfall and vegetation to produce Rift Valley fever risk maps of sub-Saharan Africa and the Arabian Peninsula and gives early warning of outbreaks. (See [related article](#).)

"Rift Valley fever is our principal research model, but we work on other diseases," Linthicum said. "We primarily work on the insects that transmit those diseases, so we look for keys that tell us when those populations of mosquitoes are increasing."

Another aspect of the research involves conducting surveillance around shipping ports for exotic mosquitoes coming into the country and collecting them for study. The research program will help the scientists understand how to collect mosquitoes most efficiently.

TRANSMITTING DISEASE

Exotic mosquitoes can do more in a new country than cause illness -- they can become endemic to (established in) a specific place.

“West Nile virus was introduced in New York in 1999,” Linthicum said. “Within four years it moved all the way across the country, and it’s still causing problems.” The virus causes severe illness in one in 150 people, who experience high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors and convulsions. Some neurological effects can be permanent.

The cause of the spread was a mosquito called *Culex tarsalis*, which happened to be a very good transmitter of West Nile virus, he said, “even though it had probably never seen West Nile virus before.” Research shows that several mosquitoes in the United States could transmit Rift Valley fever.

Something similar happened on the Arabian Peninsula in 2000, when Rift Valley fever “suddenly popped up along the Red Sea and affected a large number of animals and people there. We’re trying to follow that right now,” Linthicum said, and it is possible the disease could become endemic there.

In the United States, he added, Rift Valley fever could become established in one of the host mosquito populations and simultaneously in deer or other wildlife. If that happened, he said, “it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to do anything about it.”

VACCINES FOR DENGUE FEVER, MALARIA

The other side of disease surveillance is disease prevention, and the U.S. Defense Department is working on vaccines for a range of viral diseases, including malaria, which kills more than 1 million people a year.

Dengue fever, which infects more than 100 million people a year, is “one of the major public health and military threats,” according to Colonel Gray Heppner, M.D., director of malaria vaccine development at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

Once called “break-bone fever” because of the severe joint and muscle pain it can cause, dengue is endemic in more than 100 countries in Africa, the Americas, the eastern Mediterranean, Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific. No specific treatment or vaccine is available.

But the U.S. Army, Heppner said, has developed a dengue vaccine in collaboration with pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline that is now in phase II clinical trials in

Thailand. In phase II trials, the treatment is given to a large group of people to see if it is effective and to evaluate its safety.

To counter severe malaria infection, the Army developed and is evaluating an intravenous drug called artesunate in Kenya to replace intravenous quinidine. Quinidine, the only U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-licensed drug for severe malaria, has serious side effects and limited availability.

FDA licensure, which the Army estimates will come in early 2008, will make the drug available in the United States and increase its use worldwide.

The Army also co-developed GlaxoSmithKline's candidate malaria vaccine, called RTS,S, which reduced severe malaria by 48 percent over 18 months in Mozambican children. The vaccine now is being evaluated in Gabon, Ghana, Kenya and Tanzania.

More information about the [Center for Medical, Agricultural and Veterinary Entomology](#) is available on the USDA Web site.

More information about the [Global Emerging Infections Surveillance and Response System](#) is available on the Defense Department Web site.

See also "[International Laboratory Network Watches for Disease Outbreaks](#)" and "[Defense Department Teams with Partners to Fight Global Disease.](#)"

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