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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 36

13 June 2006 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

In the Current Update:

FEDERAL

1. Next Threat To U.S. Could Come From Within, FBI Official Warns (KWTX, 6 Jun 2006)
2. Border Patrol re-energized about mission (Chicago Tribune, 9 Jun 2006)
3. Chertoff warns senators against an independent FEMA (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 9 Jun 2006)
4. Experts ponder port security (AP, 8 Jun 2006)
5. HHS Announces \$1.2 Billion in Funding to States for Bioterrorism Preparedness (PRNewswire, 7 Jun 2006)
6. Canada: RCMP bristles at VPD anti-terrorism plan (Vancouver Sun, 8 Jun 2006)
7. New Zealand alleges 9/11 link in deporting terror suspect - Rayed Mohammed Abdullah Ali 'was building up his flying hours' (AP, 9 Jun 2006)

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

8. AZ: Arizona Upholds Immigrant Smuggling Law (Forbes, 10 Jun 2006)
9. CA: Another Border Agent Busted On Smuggling Charges (NBCSanDiego, 9 Jun 2006)
10. CT: Reputed mob boss, trash hauler among 29 arrested in federal sweep (AP, 9 Jun 2006)
11. MA: Logan opts not to offer registered flier plan (Boston Globe, 8 Jun 2006)

12. MT: ACLU wants information on federal monitoring of peace groups (AP, 9 Jun 2006)
13. NY: New law combats identity theft by `phishing' (WCAX, 9 Jun 2006)
14. OR: Police nab 'Most Wanted' ID theft suspect (KATU, 9 Jun 2006)

KEY PEOPLE

15. Hamilton: Case proves advances in intelligence (Indy Star, 9 Jun 2006)
16. Kevin Favreau Appointed Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office (FBI, 7 Jun 2006)

GANG ACTIVITY

17. CA: Oroville areas target of major anti-gang sweep (ChicoER.com, 8 Jun 2006)
18. CA: Defense in Aryan Brotherhood trial probes secret prison unit (AP, 7 Jun 2006)
19. MN: Somalis, police on alert for increasing gang activity (AP, 8 Jun 2006)
20. NJ: Rap video triggers gang fears (Herald News, 6 Jun 2006)
21. NY: Gang colors spotted at Albany High - Kids with red, white T-shirts removed from school, (WNYT, 8 Jun 2006)
22. PA: Experts say publicity will keep gang away (Bucks County Courier Times, 8 Jun 2006)
23. TX: NPD changing tactics as local gangs evolve (The Daily Sentinel, 10 Jun 2006)
24. VA: State association believes Roanoke has gang activity (WSLS NewsChannel 10, 7 Jun 2006)
25. Canada: Auto theft part of organized crime/terrorism (Underwriter.ca, 8 Jun 2006)
26. Brazil Seeks to Question Imprisoned Gang Leader About Wave of Violence (AP, 8 Jun 2006)

NARCO TRAFFICKING

27. FL: 13 indicted in St. Lucie County cocaine ring (Palm Beach Post, 9 Jun 2006)
28. KY: Police bust suspected cocaine ring (Appalachian News-Express, 10 Jun 2006)
29. MO: Couple plead guilty to possessing cocaine - 130 kilograms found during routine traffic stop on interstate (News Democrat, 10 Jun 2006)
30. NC: Cocaine dealer sentenced to nearly 19 years (News-Record.com, 7 Jun 2006)
31. TX: Feds find 339 pounds of cocaine in truck cab (KLTV, 9 Jun 2006)
32. WA: 91 arrested in probe of drug smuggling (Seattle Times, 10 Jun 2006)
33. Colombia: Cocaine base and chemical precursors worth US\$400.000 seized in La Macarena National Park. (Shared Responsibility, 9 Jun 2006)
34. UK: Police arrest 12 suspects in drug ring (Reuters, 7 Jun 2006)

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

35. Another federal breach exposes employee records (By Heather Greenfield, National Journal's Technology Daily, 9 Jun 2006)

TECHNOLOGY

36. Mid-sized processors required to keep traceability records (Food Production Daily 8 Jun 2006)
37. Protecting Commercial Airliners from Short-Range Missiles (JINSA, 8 Jun 2006)

RESOURCES

38. US Money Laundering Threat Assessment (MLTA)
39. Avoiding Contamination from Chem/Bio/Nuke Weapons (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation of American Scientists, www.fas.org)
40. "Federal Emergency Management and Homeland Security Organization: Historical Developments and Legislative Options," Congressional Research Service Report updated June 1, 2006

OPPORTUNITIES

41. IN: Volunteers needed to assist in times of emergency (The Post and Mail, 9 Jun 2006)

EVENTS

42. Van Alstyne/TRANSCAER Hazardous Materials Training Seminar set July 15-16

FULL REPORTS

43. U.S. Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative Seeks To Boost Security - System will require fraud-resistant documents for travelers, U.S official says (By Lauren Monsen, Washington File Staff Writer, 8 Jun 2006)
44. U.S. Offers Reward for Information on Reputed Mexican Drug Lord - Reward comes from State Department's anti-narcotics program (By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, 9 Jun 2006)

Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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The CABLE Gram is a weekly publication, distributed in PDF format and is currently included as a benefit of membership in the OPSEC Professionals Society and the National Military Intelligence Association.

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.

FEDERAL

1. Next Threat To U.S. Could Come From Within, FBI Official Warns (KWTX, 6 Jun 2006)

With the recent arrests of terrorism suspects in Canada, there's a renewed focus on securing America's borders. But an FBI official warns the next threat to the U.S. could come from within. Joseph Billy, the acting assistant director of the bureau's counterterrorism division, warns of a possible "lone wolf" or maybe small groups of people, working inside the country, planning a terrorist act. Along with al-Qaeda sympathizers, the possibilities include abortion clinic bombers and eco-terrorists.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
<http://www.kwtx.com/home/headlines/2938026.html>

2. Border Patrol re-energized about mission (Chicago Tribune, 9 Jun 2006)

BROWNSVILLE, Texas - Border Patrol agent Vanessa McKeon had once wanted to be just like Agent Clarice Starling of "The Silence of the Lambs." It was the FBI that seemed the dream job for the daughter of a Missouri Highway Patrolman who persuaded her that life as a G-man, or G-woman, was the way to go. Good pay. Better benefits. Some travel. It was the undisputed No. 1 federal law agency in staffing back then. But, in 1998, she settled for Border Patrol agent. How times change. With immigration reform and security of the U.S.-Mexico border emerging as among the most impassioned - and divisive - of domestic issues, McKeon and her co-workers in green uniforms are poised to possibly surpass the FBI as the largest force of federal law agents in the land.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
<http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/news/nation/14779344.htm>

3. Chertoff warns senators against an independent FEMA (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 9 Jun 2006)

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff offered an impassioned argument Thursday for keeping the Federal Emergency Management Agency within his department, saying that removing the agency would cost billions of dollars and undo efforts made in reorganizing the government since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Chertoff told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee during a hearing that removing FEMA would create a "schizophrenic" government response to disasters, where both the agency and the department would move into action in an uncoordinated fashion. He argued that problems in the government's response to Hurricane Katrina last year were caused, in part, because then-FEMA Director Michael Brown tried to operate independently. "It seems to me to do this would have a huge budget impact [and] would invite precisely the kind of ... bureaucratic obstacles that were a problem last year," Chertoff said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:
http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34293&dcn=e_gvet

4. Experts ponder port security (AP, 8 Jun 2006)

NEW YORK - Emergency response officials consider it the nightmare scenario. It begins with terrorists taking over a Liberian cargo ship shortly before it enters New York harbor.

They ram it into a crowded Staten Island ferry leaving lower Manhattan and then explode a "dirty bomb" nuclear device. Meanwhile, a mine detonates under a cargo vessel near Norfolk, Va., effectively shutting down another of the East Coast's busiest ports and its biggest naval base until Navy minesweepers can clear the shipping channels of any more explosives. Federal, regional, state and local agencies would ideally communicate smoothly during such a maritime crises and a coordinated recovery effort would be fully under way in a matter of four hours, said officials at a two-day port security conference in lower Manhattan sponsored by the Annapolis, Md.-based U.S. Naval Institute, a nonprofit group.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.navytimes.com/story.php?f=1-292925-1856836.php>

5. HHS Announces \$1.2 Billion in Funding to States for Bioterrorism Preparedness (PRNewswire, 7 Jun 2006)

WASHINGTON - HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt today announced that the department has made available another \$1.2 billion to the states, territories and four metropolitan areas to help strengthen their capacity to respond to terrorism and other public health emergencies. "Improving our nation's response to public health emergencies is an important part of securing America," Secretary Leavitt said. "All emergency incidents -- whether naturally occurring, accidental, or terrorist-induced -- begin as local matters and with this program, states and communities will build on the preparedness gains they've made over the past four years."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060607/dcw033.html?v=59>

6. Canada: RCMP bristles at VPD anti-terrorism plan (Vancouver Sun, 8 Jun 2006)

The RCMP was surprised by this week's announcement from the Vancouver police department that is setting up its own counterterrorism unit, according to Vancouver RCMP Staff Sgt. John Ward. "We were not officially aware of this," said Ward, who speaks on behalf of the Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security Unit. He said two Vancouver police positions on the RCMP's Integrated National Security Enforcement Team -- paid for by Ottawa, not Vancouver -- have been vacant for "quite some time." "They initially did put some people there in INSET and we trained some of them," he said, adding that Vancouver police would be "well-positioned" to fight terrorism within INSET.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?N3C223E3D>

7. New Zealand alleges 9/11 link in deporting terror suspect - Rayed Mohammed Abdullah Ali 'was building up his flying hours' (AP, 9 Jun 2006)

WELLINGTON, New Zealand - A Yemeni national who the New Zealand government says had a direct link with terrorists involved in the September 11 terrorist attacks on the United States has been deported because he was a threat to national security, the government announced Saturday. Rayed Mohammed Abdullah Ali was deported because his continued presence in New Zealand posed a security threat, Immigration Minister David Cunliffe said in a statement. "He was directly associated with persons responsible for the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001," Cunliffe said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/asiapcf/06/09/newzealand.terror.ap/index.html>

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

8. AZ: Arizona Upholds Immigrant Smuggling Law (Forbes, 10 Jun 2006)

A judge on Friday upheld an Arizona law that made immigrant smuggling a state crime, rejecting arguments that it was never intended to target immigrants - only the human traffickers they hire. Judge Thomas O'Toole said there was no evidence that lawmakers "intended to exclude any prosecution for conspiracy to commit human smuggling." Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas has used the law to charge more than 200 people, most of them immigrants accused of paying to be smuggled into Arizona.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.forbes.com/infoimaging/feeds/ap/2006/06/09/ap2806489.html>

9. CA: Another Border Agent Busted On Smuggling Charges (NBCSanDiego, 9 Jun 2006)

SAN DIEGO - For the second time this week, a federal border inspector was arrested Thursday on charges of taking money in exchange for waving illegal immigrants through border crossings. In an indictment unsealed by federal prosecutors, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officer Richard Elizalda is accused of accepting cash and a luxury car from smugglers driving carloads of illegal immigrants from Tijuana, Mexico, into the U.S. through the San Ysidro Port of Entry in San Diego.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/9346307/detail.html>

10. CT: Reputed mob boss, trash hauler among 29 arrested in federal sweep (AP, 9 Jun 2006)

NEW HAVEN, Conn. - Trash haulers in southern Connecticut have used the Mafia as their silent partner for more than a decade, federal prosecutors said Friday after arresting 29 people including a reputed mob boss, a former Waterbury mayor and the region's largest garbage hauler. "Organized crime's stranglehold on the citizens of Connecticut through its control of the trash industry has been broken," said Kimberly Mertz, Connecticut's top FBI agent. Companies owned by James Galante paid a quarterly \$30,000 "mob tax" to alleged Genovese crime family boss Matthew "Matty the Horse" Ianniello, prosecutors said. In exchange, Ianniello provided mob muscle to stifle competition. That's how Connecticut's garbage industry has operated since the mid-1980s, and companies that challenged it had their drivers assaulted and trucks vandalized, prosecutors said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P2B211E3D>

11. MA: Logan opts not to offer registered flier plan (Boston Globe, 8 Jun 2006)

Logan International Airport officials have decided not to offer "registered traveler" express security lanes for frequent flyers who submit to government background checks, saying they doubt travelers would see enough benefit to pay \$100 a year or more for the

special status. The key issue is that the wait in line at Logan's busiest security checkpoints averages three to four minutes, spokesman Phil Orlandella said yesterday. "Long waits at the checkpoints are a rare occurrence," he said, "and the question we need to ask is: What benefit are we offering to the consumer?" He added that "should circumstances change in the future, we may reconsider our decision."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?W2A221E3D>

12. MT: ACLU wants information on federal monitoring of peace groups (AP, 9 Jun 2006)

HELENA - The American Civil Liberties Union of Montana has asked three federal agencies for any information they may have collected by monitoring eight peace and environmental groups in the state. The ACLU filed the Freedom of Information Act request Thursday with the departments of Justice, Homeland Security and Defense for any information gathered from Sept. 12, 2001 through June 1, 2006. The request was filed on behalf of the Montana ACLU, Helena Peace Seekers, Billings Peace Seekers, "Just Don't Go" of Helena, Taking Action for Peaceful Solutions in Butte, University of Montana Students for Peace, the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center in Missoula and the Friends of the Bitterroot environmental group from Hamilton.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2006/06/09/news/state/53-aclu.txt>

13. NY: New law combats identity theft by 'phishing' (WCAX, 9 Jun 2006)

ALBANY, N.Y. There's no phishing allowed in New York anymore. Governor Pataki signed bills today to end the growing scheme of sending e-mails from seemingly legitimate businesses to trick people into turning over private credit card and bank account information. The term is short for "password harvesting fishing." One of the new laws allows private companies, nonprofit groups and the state attorney general to bring civil actions against "phishing" scam artists.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=5011341&nav=4QcS>

14. OR: Police nab 'Most Wanted' ID theft suspect (KATU, 9 Jun 2006)

PORTLAND, Ore. - A sophisticated marijuana growing operation and identity theft ring was broken up by Portland police on Tuesday. Police seized 450 marijuana plants inside a home located in the 10000 block of Northeast Hoyt. Jessie Afterbuffalo, 22, and Tammy Wright, 24, were arrested and booked at the Multnomah County Jail. Wright is on the Portland Police Bureau's "Most Wanted" list for alleged involvement in more than 500 counts of various forgery charges.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.katu.com/news/story.asp?ID=86673>

KEY PEOPLE

15. Hamilton: Case proves advances in intelligence (Indy Star, 9 Jun 2006)

WASHINGTON - The killing of terrorist leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi is "hugely significant," not just as a morale booster and a blow to al-Qaida, but also because it indicates the United States has improved its intelligence gathering, according to former U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton. The Hoosier Democrat, a former chairman of the House International Relations Committee, is a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. The 16-member board acts as an independent check on the quality of intelligence and counterintelligence produced by the government. "It demonstrates our ability to take out an al-Qaida target, which I think a lot of people have questioned because we haven't gotten Osama bin Laden," Hamilton said. "We've been steadily improving our contacts with indigenous sources. . . . The hardest thing in intelligence is to get real-time information about where a figure like Zarqawi is and, in this case, we had it." Still, Hamilton said it's too early to know whether al-Zarqawi's death would prove to be a major turning point in Iraq.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L59221E3D>

16. Kevin Favreau Appointed Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Office (FBI, 7 Jun 2006)

Washington, D.C. – FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III today announced the appointment of Kevin Favreau as Special Agent in Charge of the Counterintelligence Division of the FBI's Washington Field Office. The Counterintelligence Division provides centralized management and oversight for all Foreign Counterintelligence (FCI) investigations in the Washington Field Office territory. The territories covered by the Washington Field Office are the District and Columbia and 13 counties and independent cities in Northern Virginia.

Mr. Favreau brings to the position extensive management experience, informed by over 23 years of service in the FBI, with 18 years experience in espionage and counterintelligence investigations. His career with the FBI began in 1983 in the Boston Division as an intelligence analyst working counterintelligence and counter terrorism matters. In 1988, Mr. Favreau became a Special Agent and he was assigned to the Pittsburgh Division where for the next eight years he primarily worked counterespionage and counter terrorism.

Mr. Favreau currently serves as Chief of the new Domain Support Section at FBI Headquarters, a position he has held since August 2005. In this position, Mr. Favreau coordinates all FBI Counterintelligence outreach to the U.S. Intelligence Community, academia, and the private sector.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel06/favreau060706.htm>

GANG ACTIVITY

17. CA: Oroville areas target of major anti-gang sweep (ChicoER.com, 8 Jun 2006)

Law enforcement agents conducted a major anti-gang enforcement sweep and ten people were arrested Thursday. The Butte County Sheriff's Gang Unit hosted the sweep, which

targeted the unincorporated areas in and around Oroville and lasted about six hours. There were 24 law enforcement officers involved in the operation, including agents and officers from Butte County Sheriff's Office, the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, State Parks, the Butte Interagency Narcotics Task Force, the District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Hall, CSU Chico University Police, Probation and Parole Departments, and from the police departments in Oroville, Paradise, Gridley-Biggs, and Chico.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://chicoer.com/oroville/ci_3911617

18. CA: Defense in Aryan Brotherhood trial probes secret prison unit (AP, 7 Jun 2006)

SANTA ANA, Calif. - Within the forbidding walls of the Supermax federal prison, where high-profile inmates live in heavily guarded isolation, a section was created in 1998 called "H Unit," where six special prisoners could mingle, use a computer and share information, a prison official testified Wednesday. The six men, dropouts from the notorious Aryan Brotherhood prison gang, were known as "cooperators" or in slang as "snitches." Danny Shoff, a Bureau of Prisons official now assigned to Washington, D.C., said he was one of the few staff members at the Florence, Colo., facility allowed entry to "H Unit" during the period that the inmates were helping the government in an investigation designed to crack the heart of the Aryan Brotherhood.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H26526C3D>

19. MN: Somalis, police on alert for increasing gang activity (AP, 8 Jun 2006)

MINNEAPOLIS - Mike Martin remembers the birth of gang culture among Southeast Asians in the late 1980s and 1990s. Now the gang expert with the Minneapolis police department sees the cycle repeating itself in the Somali refugee community. "It's an evolution that we've seen time and again," said Martin, a Minneapolis police captain and president of the Midwest Gang Investigators Association. At a forum Wednesday at Hamline University, about 100 Somali and law enforcement community leaders discussed ways to break that evolution. The forum was organized in part because of the shooting death last week of Safi Ahmed, 20, in St. Paul. Although arrests have been made, no charges have been filed and police have yet to say whether the slaying has gang ties.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.grandforks.com/mld/grandforks/news/14767718.htm>

20. NJ: Rap video triggers gang fears (Herald News, 6 Jun 2006)

PASSAIC -- A rap video of suspected Dominican gang members brandishing a machete outside a city elementary school has surfaced on a popular Web site, sparking concern among police, school officials and Mayor Samuel Rivera about gang presence around Monroe Street. The video of the possible local members of the Trinitarios street gang, or 3NI, was shot at night outside School 11 on Monroe Street and Gregory Avenue -- where students on Monday said the primarily Dominican gang likes to hang out. At one point during the three-minute rap, which centered around kids bragging about their tough

reputation and flashing money rolls, two members wielded a machete for the camera -- though no specific threat was made.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K45512C3D>

21. NY: Gang colors spotted at Albany High - Kids with red, white T-shirts removed from school, (WNYT, 8 Jun 2006)

NewsChannel 13 has learned students were asked to leave Albany High School during school hours Tuesday because of suspected gang activity. An adult at the high school noticed and immediately reported two very separate groups of students—one wearing red T-shirts, the color associated with a gang called the Bloods, and another cluster of white T-shirts. “Today you’re seeing kids in large groups wearing common identifiers. And you know, that’s our job is to identify these kids and see what we can do to work with them,” gang prevention specialist Ron “Cook” Barrett said. According to a district spokesman, administrators first asked the Albany High kids involved to remove the oversized colored T-shirts because such displays of gang affiliation, even if it turns out to only be perceived, is in violation of the district's code of conduct. Those who did not were sent home.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wnyt.com/x8627.xml?ag=x995&sb=x183>

22. PA: Experts say publicity will keep gang away (Bucks County Courier Times, 8 Jun 2006)

Violent street gang members aren’t afraid of much. But one thing does intimidate them: attention. Media attention. Police attention. Public attention. Criminals don’t want people to know they’re planning something criminal before they do it. At least, that’s the view of local psychologists. Given the massive local and national attention surrounding a rumor of gang retaliation that would take place at the Harry S Truman High School graduation, some local psychologists believe if the threat were real, it won’t be carried out now.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.phillyburbs.com/pb-dyn/news/111-06082006-667485.html>

23. TX: NPD changing tactics as local gangs evolve (The Daily Sentinel, 10 Jun 2006)

Currently, there are four criminal street gangs active within the city limits of Nacogdoches — Latin Kings, Vatos Locos, Brown Pride and the West Side Bloods — and a newly received federal grant will help combat gang-related crimes. According to Sgt. Butch White with the Nacogdoches Police Department, the South Side “13,” which was once comprised of about 38 Hispanic males, has all but disbanded, and most members have either joined with and are associated with the Vatos Locos or Brown Pride. Police believe that the largest and most organized are the Latin Kings — which has a “documented” membership of about 86 “hard-core” Hispanic males. Police believe the actual member list to be much larger.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?F18223E3D>

24. VA: State association believes Roanoke has gang activity (WSLS NewsChannel 10, 7 Jun 2006)

A state association believes there is little room for debate, the Roanoke area is showing signs of gang activity. Mindy Grizzard, a member of the Virginia Gang Investigators Association, said authorities in Roanoke would report more gang activity in the area than it did two years ago. Grizzard was in charge of compiling a statewide gang assessment survey in 2004, where those surveyed in Roanoke reported little gang related problems. "I believe some of it was denial and some of it was knowledge based," Grizzard said. Grizzard believes some Roanoke leaders didn't recognize the signs they were seeing would meet the state's definition of gang activity.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Z64521C3D>

25. Canada: Auto theft part of organized crime/terrorism (Underwriter.ca, 8 Jun 2006)

If you think stealing a car is a small-time crime motivated by the need for thrill-seeking or a quick buck, it's time for a reality check, according to the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC). "Today, auto theft is big business," the IBC says in a press release issued at the opening of a two-day summit meeting held in Ottawa on the globalization of auto theft. The North American Export Committee (NAEC) organized the two-day summit. IBC and other Canadian and U.S. representatives established the NAEC in 1996 to explore ways of improving export reporting, analysis and interdiction methods. "Organized crime and terrorist organizations routinely raise funds through auto theft, a felony that is on the rise globally," the IBC says. "Stolen vehicles are shipped overseas to be sold to fund operations, or sent to 'chop shops,' where their parts are sold for huge profits. Stolen vehicles are used to conduct surveillance of victims and targets.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.canadianunderwriter.ca/issues/ISArticle.asp?id=56898&issue=06082006>

26. Brazil Seeks to Question Imprisoned Gang Leader About Wave of Violence (AP, 8 Jun 2006)

SAO PAULO, Brazil — Lawmakers sought Thursday to question an imprisoned gang leader suspected of having ordered the onslaught of violence that killed nearly 200 people in and around Brazil's largest city last month. [Marcos Willians Herbas Camacho](#), known as Marcola, heads the [First Capital Command](#), one of Brazil's most notorious organized-crime groups, better known by its Portuguese initials PCC. The PCC on May 12 unleashed a weeklong Sao Paulo killing spree that included uprisings in more than 70 prisons and attacks against police stations with grenades and automatic weapons. The attacks were triggered after authorities sought to transfer PCC leaders to remote lockdowns.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,198754,00.html>

NARCO TRAFFICKING

27. FL: 13 indicted in St. Lucie County cocaine ring (Palm Beach Post, 9 Jun 2006)

FORT PIERCE - A federal grand jury has formally indicted 13 people in connection with what law enforcement officials say was one of St. Lucie County's largest cocaine rings. Most of those indicted have been in jail since their arrests two weeks ago when officials announced the bust of the alleged ring, which they dubbed "Operation Unlucky 13." Nine of the defendants, including the two alleged ringleaders Johnny Daniels, 27, and Derrick Cooper, 34, appeared in federal court Friday morning and pleaded not guilty to the cocaine charges. More than 20 investigators from six local, state and national agencies worked on Operation Unlucky 13, which was named for the ring's alleged connection to Fort Pierce's 13th Street gang. Investigators gathered evidence through records, surveillance and undercover operations for more than a year.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Y35324E3D>

28. KY: Police bust suspected cocaine ring (Appalachian News-Express, 10 Jun 2006)

A suspected cocaine-trafficking ring was uncovered in an ongoing investigation with Operation UNITE Wednesday, but no arrests were made. Officers with the UNITE task force, the Kentucky State Police and the Pike County Sheriff's Department executed search warrants at three homes on Widows Branch at Stopover Wednesday evening, where a Pike county father and son are suspected of leading a substantial drug trafficking ring. The search, which began about 6 p.m., included 20 UNITE detectives, four KSP troopers, Pike County Sheriff Charles "Fuzzy" Keesee and four of his deputies. Though Roy Clifford Blankenship, Sr., also known as "Big Roy," his son, "Little Roy" Clifford Blankenship, Jr. and Christopher Adkins, a tenant in one of three homes searched, were not arrested, officials confiscated a large amount of suspected cocaine and \$35,000 in cash. Arrests are pending, they say.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.news-expressky.com/articles/2006/06/09/news/02coke.txt>

29. MO: Couple plead guilty to possessing cocaine - 130 kilograms found during routine traffic stop on interstate (News Democrat, 10 Jun 2006)

EAST ST. LOUIS - A husband and wife pleaded guilty Friday to federal charges of having a large amount of cocaine in a secret compartment of their recreational vehicle. Police discovered the cocaine after a routine traffic stop. David and Kelly Gilman of Melrose Park, near Chicago, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William B. Stiehl on Friday to knowingly possessing with the intent to distribute cocaine. The Gilmans were stopped by an Illinois State Police trooper on Interstate 55-70 near Collinsville, Illinois State Police Master Sgt. Kevin Stallard said. David Gilman, 49, and his 26-year-old wife stood motionless with their attorneys and listened as Stiehl read to them what they were pleading guilty to. Both acknowledged their guilt.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.belleville.com/mld/belleville/news/local/crime_courts/14787165.htm

30. NC: Cocaine dealer sentenced to nearly 19 years (News-Record.com, 7 Jun 2006)

GREENSBORO - An illegal immigrant has been sentenced to nearly 19 years in prison for selling cocaine and possessing guns in the largest cocaine bust in Rockingham County

history. Edgar Flores Tito, 24, of Reidsville, was sentenced Tuesday in federal court on two counts stemming from the drug bust in 2005. He admitted trying to sell 11 kilograms of cocaine to an undercover Rockingham County sheriff's deputy in March 2005, according to court documents that were part of his guilty plea. Tito was also sentenced for possessing guns in conjunction with drugs and selling more than 800 kilograms of marijuana -- which was added with the cocaine for a combined drug sentence.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H27212E3D>

31. TX: Feds find 339 pounds of cocaine in truck cab (KLTV, 9 Jun 2006)

McALLEN, Texas Officials say federal agents found 339 pounds of cocaine stashed below the sleep compartment of a tractor-trailer pulled over for a traffic stop. It was the second major bust in South Texas this week. The seizure occurred Tuesday after Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department deputies pulled the truck over on U-S Highway 281. U-S Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers found 140 bundles of cocaine valued at four-point-three (m) million dollars in the floor of the sleeper compartment. No arrests were made, and an investigation was ongoing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kltv.com/Global/story.asp?S=5007671&nav=1TjD>

32. WA: 91 arrested in probe of drug smuggling (Seattle Times, 10 Jun 2006)

They allegedly smuggled drugs in cereal boxes, in the false bottoms of water bottles, inside industrial rolls of cellophane and in special compartments welded beneath car manifolds. Despite their ingeniousness, 91 members of a ring suspected of smuggling heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine from Mexico into Washington state have been rounded up by a drug-enforcement task force, officials announced Friday. Officers from dozens of local, state and federal agencies raided houses from Kalama, Cowlitz County, to Seattle earlier this week, making scores of arrests and confiscating heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine, eight guns and \$300,000 in cash. The raid was one of several coordinated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Seattle Police Department. Two related earlier raids yielded additional arrests, a total of \$635,000 in cash, more drugs, firearms, automobiles and three homes valued at more than \$1 million, federal agents said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2003052368_drugbust10m.html

33. Colombia: Cocaine base and chemical precursors worth US\$400.000 seized in La Macarena National Park. (Shared Responsibility, 9 Jun 2006)

About 4 tons of cocaine base have been seized by Colombian authorities while carrying out Colombia Verde operation, aimed at eradicating all illicit crops in La Macarena National Park. This operation is considered one of the most certain beat to guerrillas, and so narcotraffick organizations, while they stop receiving US\$400.000 from this profitable business. Up to now 898 hectares of coca crops have been eradicated in La Macarena National park where Mobile Eradication Groups are working until uprooting the last coca bush. According to the official report, thousand of liquid and solid chemical precursors have been seized and 126 landmines were detected and destroyed. Unfortunately, many

manual eradicators and civilians have died due to landmines, planted to protect illicit crops from the national effort to shatter narco-trafficking business.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.sharedresponsibility.gov.co/?idcategoria=556>

34. UK: Police arrest 12 suspects in drug ring (Reuters, 7 Jun 2006)

LONDON - Police arrested 12 men on Wednesday on suspicion of being part of international drugs networks in Britain and Colombia suspected of trafficking cocaine with a street value of 60 million pounds. More than 100 officers conducted a series of dawn raids on 19 houses across London and Kent, the Metropolitan Police said in a statement. The arrests were part of an investigation -- codenamed operation Alington -- into a major Colombian criminal network believed to have been supplying cocaine to two London-based criminal networks since 1998. They were also linked to an earlier investigation, operation Anuric, into a mainly Colombian gang which ran the biggest cocaine and money-laundering ring ever uncovered in Britain.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E2D251E3D>

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

35. Another federal breach exposes employee records (By Heather Greenfield, National Journal's Technology Daily, 9 Jun 2006)

The Energy Department disclosed to Congress on Friday that it suffered a security breach from a hacker in September that compromised 1,500 personnel records. The news broke just as a House Energy and Commerce Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee was supposed to start a hearing on how secure Energy Department computers are in light of recently reported data breaches at the Internal Revenue Service and Veterans Affairs Department. Kentucky Republican Ed Whitfield, chairman of the Subcommittee, said there is no excuse for the department to have its current "F" in cyber-security compliance -- or for waiting eight months to tell the Energy secretary or his committee about the security breach.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0606/060906tdpm1.htm>

TECHNOLOGY

36. Mid-sized processors required to keep traceability records (Food Production Daily 8 Jun 2006)

The Bioterrorism Act's requirements on traceability and record keeping come into effect June 9 for medium sized processors, part of a regulatory push to ensure the safety of the food supply chain. In addition to shouldering the burden of increased costs, processors and others in the food chain are now liable under the federal law for keeping traceability records. These records must hold data tracking the immediate sources of their supplies and the recipients of their products along the chain, a system known as "one-step forward, one-step back". The June 9 deadline applies to companies employing 11 to 499 full time employees. Processors who employ 500 or more full-time employees had to be

in compliance by December 9, 2005. Those employing 10 or fewer employees have until December 11, 2006 to put a traceability system in place.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C1E221E3D>

37. Protecting Commercial Airliners from Short-Range Missiles (JINSA, 8 Jun 2006)

Five months ago, Swiss and French intelligence agencies uncovered a plan to attack an Israeli El Al commercial airliner during take-off out of the Geneva, Switzerland airport using a rocket-propelled grenade. According to Israeli news source Arutz Sheva, May 19, 2006, the plot was unmasked by an undercover agent in the Islamic Center in Geneva who was informed by immigrants of the planned attack, after which the terrorists intended to escape to Iraq. Warnings were released to the airport as well as local police and for a week all El Al flights were diverted to Zurich. Despite the advance alert, no arrests were made. The event echoed the unsuccessful missile attack on an Israeli Arkia airlines flight out of Mombassa, Kenya in 2002. To cope with the growing threat to civilian airliners, Israel's Civil Aviation Authority has approved the use of the Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd.'s (IAI) Elta Systems Group/Israel Military Industries' system for the defense of commercial aircraft against man-portable air defense systems (MANPADS), as the small, short-range systems are known, *Aviation & Aerospace*, December 29, 2005, reported. According to the IAI, "Flight Guard," the Israeli anti-MANPADS device, "uses an advanced radar-based Missile Approach Warning System (MAWS) to detect shoulder-launched missiles fired at the aircraft and 'dark flare' technology to divert missiles away from it." The "dark flare" is a flare that operates only in the infrared section of the spectrum, and therefore is invisible to the naked eye and so will not alarm passengers when the system is activated.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M2F252E3D>

RESOURCES

38. US Money Laundering Threat Assessment (MLTA)

The 2005 Money Laundering Threat Assessment (MLTA) is the first government-wide analysis of money laundering in the United States. The report is the product of an interagency working group composed of experts from the spectrum of U.S. Government agencies, bureaus, and offices that study and combat money laundering. The purpose of the MLTA is to help policy makers, regulators, and the law enforcement community better understand the landscape of money laundering in the United States and to support strategic planning efforts to combat money laundering. The working group synthesized law enforcement statistics and observations, regulatory data (such as Bank Secrecy Act filings), private sector studies, and public information to assess the vulnerabilities that allow criminals to launder money through particular money laundering methods or conduits. The MLTA offers a detailed analysis of thirteen money laundering methods, ranging from well-established techniques for integrating dirty money into the financial system to modern innovations that exploit global payment networks as well as the Internet.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.treasury.gov/offices/enforcement/pdf/mlta.pdf>

39. Avoiding Contamination from Chem/Bio/Nuke Weapons (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation of American Scientists, www.fas.org)

Tactics, techniques and procedures that military forces should use to avoid contamination from an attack involving chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons are set forth in a recent [military manual](#) (large pdf).

"The possibility that an adversary will use CBRN weapons against the United States and its allies continues to increase daily," the manual states.

"If these weapons are used, our forces must be ready to implement the principles of CBRN defense [including] contamination avoidance, protection, and decontamination."

"Executed at all levels and coupled with an effective retaliatory response, these fundamentals will increase the likelihood of a US victory."

See ["Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Contamination Avoidance."](#) U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force, February 2006 (13.5 MB PDF).

40. "Federal Emergency Management and Homeland Security Organization: Historical Developments and Legislative Options," Congressional Research Service Report updated June 1, 2006

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/RL33369.pdf>

OPPORTUNITIES

41. IN: Volunteers needed to assist in times of emergency (The Post and Mail, 9 Jun 2006)

Whitley County needs you. The county has a community emergency response team - CERT - that is part of a nationwide response organization that takes everyday citizens and trains them to be able to assist neighbors in case of emergencies, such as severe weather, fires, terrorist acts and other disasters. It's a combination of a little bit of fire fighting, a search-and-rescue team and an extensive amount of basic first aid.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thepostandmail.com/articles/2006/06/09/news/news/news02.txt>

EVENTS

42. Van Alstyne/TRANSCAER Hazardous Materials Training Seminar set July 15-16

This seminar is going to be July 15 and 16 from 0800 to 1600. The class is in cooperation with TRANSCAER, a non profit corporation that provides free Haz-Mat training to

public safety agencies. The companies participating are Shell Oil and Chemical, Mission Petroleum, Union Pacific Railroad Haz-Mat Team, Texas Excavation Safety Service and SRS Environmental.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.ntxe-news.com/artman/publish/article_34653.shtml

FULL REPORTS

43. U.S. Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative Seeks To Boost Security - System will require fraud-resistant documents for travelers, U.S official says (By Lauren Mosen, Washington File Staff Writer, 8 Jun 2006)

Washington - A new system of screening travelers entering the United States significantly would enhance U.S. defenses against terrorism, says Paul Rosenzweig, acting assistant secretary for policy development at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) would require anyone crossing into the United States by land, air or sea first to present secure documentation that shows identity and nationality, Rosenzweig told the House Judiciary Committee's Immigration Subcommittee June 8. The initiative would require U.S. and Canadian citizens to do what citizens of most countries always have had to do when crossing national borders, he said.

By requiring that all individuals carry a passport or other acceptable documents, the WHTI would reduce the potential for identity fraud, he added. "Advanced technology imbedded in these travel documents, with appropriate privacy protections, will allow real-time checks against terrorist and immigration databases."

The need for more rigorous security standards has been underscored by recent arrests of suspected terrorists in Canada, Rosenzweig said. Moreover, "the number and types of documentation currently accepted -- often a driver's license or birth certificate -- are prone to counterfeiting and fraud and are obtainable by terrorists and other dangerous persons who wish to enter our country illegally," he told legislators.

He added that the U.S.-Canadian border traditionally has received less scrutiny than the U.S.-Mexico border.

"We enjoy a very close relationship with our Canadian neighbors, [both] culturally and economically, ... [yet] we are two distinct countries that share similar values but have diverse populations and have historically employed different immigration laws," said Rosenzweig.

Rosenzweig said that the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) -- launched in March 2005 by President Bush, Mexican President Vicente Fox and Canada's then-prime minister, Paul Martin -- also has played a key role in cementing a strong security partnership among the three neighboring North American countries. (See [related article](#).)

A collaborative U.S.-Canadian approach to establishing appropriate documentation for border-crossing travelers is imperative because a senior Canadian intelligence official recently estimated that "approximately 20,000 immigrants have come to Canada from the Afghanistan/Pakistan region since 2001," said Rosenzweig.

An influx from such a volatile region could be problematic because "some extremists have demonstrated the ability to blend into a number of the large communities existing in major U.S. and Canadian cities," he said, adding that large cities offer opportunities for terrorists to conduct fund-raising and recruiting activities.

Rosenzweig said "the government of Canada has shown that it is taking strong action to protect itself, which also helps protect our citizens" and added that "the vast majority of persons who immigrate to Canada are law-abiding, simply seeking a better life for themselves and their families."

But "as populations increasingly mix and extremists recruit native-born youth and converts, travel documents become even more critical in identifying terrorists" and establishing their travel patterns, he said.

BALANCING SECURITY REQUIREMENTS WITH TRAVEL AND COMMERCE NEEDS

Notwithstanding their firm commitment to improve security, the United States and its neighbors want to ensure that legitimate travelers and legitimate cross-border commerce will not experience unreasonable delays, Rosenzweig said.

"It is important to bear in mind ... that security and commerce are not exclusive of each other," he said. "In fact, standardized and automated travel documents will enable us to quickly, reliably, and accurately identify a traveler and his or her citizenship without having to review an assortment of documents and pursue a line of questioning to determine who the person is; this will facilitate the entry of travelers."

To assist U.S. citizens, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State "are developing plans to produce an alternative form of the U.S. passport for use at land border crossings" since both agencies "realize that a traditional passport book may not be the most convenient or effective form of documentation for land border use, particularly for frequent crossers," he added.

A proposed travel card for U.S. citizens that would be issued by the Department of Homeland Security, "is envisioned as wallet-sized and convenient to obtain, costing the bearer substantially less than a traditional passport," he explained. "The card will contain security features and will use technology to link the identity and citizenship of the bearer to a U.S. government database in a privacy-protective manner."

Finally, the initiative would be implemented in two phases -- for entries via sea and air by 2007 and for land-border crossings by 2008, he said, adding that the Bush administration

plans to “continue to work with Canada and Mexico, and our other Western Hemisphere neighbors, to ensure the successful implementation of this initiative.”

The [full text](#) (PDF, 10 pages) of Rosenzweig’s prepared remarks is available on the Web site of the House Judiciary Committee.

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

44. U.S. Offers Reward for Information on Reputed Mexican Drug Lord - Reward comes from State Department's anti-narcotics program (By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, 9 Jun 2006)

Washington - The United States is offering a reward of up to \$5 million for information that leads to the capture or conviction of a reputed Mexican drug lord who is a fugitive from U.S. justice.

U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Antonio Garza said in a June 8 statement that the fugitive, Jorge Eduardo Costilla Sánchez, is believed to be the leader of the Gulf Coast Cartel, an organization responsible for the distribution of thousands of kilograms of cocaine and marijuana in Mexico and the United States each year.

Garza said on the U.S. Embassy Web site in Mexico City that "in addition to being an extremely dangerous criminal," Costilla is the "linchpin of a network of drug dealers and murderers." The ambassador said residents of communities on the U.S.-Mexico border "will be significantly safer if he is apprehended and brought to justice."

Garza said Costilla is charged in the United States with 12 counts of drug-trafficking and money-laundering crimes and also is wanted for assaulting a law enforcement officer.

The U.S. State Department says Costilla, in his “presumptive role as day-to-day leader” of the Gulf Coast Cartel, also allegedly leads an enforcement arm known as "Los Zetas," that conducts kidnappings, murders and other violence on behalf of the cartel to ensure safe transit of illegal narcotics into the United States.

The reward offer concerning Costilla is being made under the State Department’s narcotics rewards program. Under the program, the U.S. Secretary of State has the authority to offer rewards of up to \$5 million for information leading to the arrest and/or conviction of major narcotics traffickers who operate in foreign locations to send drugs into the United States.

One reported example of Costilla's vicious tactics occurred in 2004, when he was alleged to have ordered the assassination of a Mexican journalist, Francisco Arratia Saldierna. The Paris-based group, Reporters Without Borders, said the motive for the killing might have been Arratia's articles about drugs and organized crime in the Mexican state of Tamaulipas.

Anyone knowing Costilla's whereabouts is asked to call the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City at 55-5080-2177. All calls are confidential, the embassy said.

The [full text](#) of the press release is available on the Web site of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City.

More information about [Costilla](#) and the [U.S. narcotics award program](#) is available on the State Department's Web site.

For additional information on U.S. policy, see [Mexico](#).

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

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