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

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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 41

13 July 2006 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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

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

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## **FEDERAL**

### **1. Feds plan telework in pandemic crisis (UPI, 12 Jul 2006)**

WASHINGTON - In the case of a pandemic flu outbreak, U.S. federal agencies could find ways to encourage employees barred from leaving their houses to work from home. The new telework fall back option may be implemented despite the lack of legal authority to mandate telework, according to new guidelines from the Office of Personnel Management, GovExec.com reported Tuesday. The 76-page OPM document released Monday is the second of three guides prepared in response to President Bush's request for a plan to keep federal agencies operating during emergency situations such as an outbreak of pandemic flu.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20060712-061657-1469r>

### **2. Multiple mutations in Indonesian bird flu strain (Reuters, 13 Jul 2006)**

LONDON - Multiple mutations have been found in the H5N1 bird flu virus that killed seven family members in Indonesia although scientists are unsure of their significance, a leading science journal said on Thursday. But researchers believe the findings reinforce the need for bird flu data to be more widely available to improve understanding of the deadly virus. "The functional significance of the mutations isn't clear -- most of them seem unimportant," the journal Nature said in a report in the latest issue on Thursday. An analysis of virus samples from six of the eight members of the family showed 32 mutations accumulated as it spread, according to the confidential research obtained by Nature.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?B55E1276D>

### **3. Feds polish up information-sharing plan (Washington Technology, 11 Jul 2006)**

A final implementation plan will be released this month for the federal government's new Information-Sharing Environment, John Negroponte, director of national intelligence, said in a speech Monday. Congress established the environment concept as part of Negroponte's office in the intelligence reform legislation of 2004. Program Manager Thomas McNamara, who runs the initiative, is developing specific policies and processes for the environment, publishing an IT architecture and completing the implementation

plan, Negroponte told the U.S. Chamber of Commerce National Security Business Forum. The environment's purpose is counterterrorism information-sharing among federal, state, local, tribal and private sector participants.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1\\_1/daily\\_news/28919-1.html](http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/daily_news/28919-1.html)

**4. DHS to distribute \$400 million for infrastructure protection (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 11 Jul 2006)**

Homeland Security Department officials on Thursday announced that about \$400 million in fiscal 2006 funding will be made available to protect critical infrastructure sites across the country, including transit systems, seaports and chemical facilities, through the Infrastructure Protection Grant Program. Speaking at a news conference, the officials made clear they have not made any changes to the grant program based on criticism the department received after its controversial announcement in May of anti-terrorism grants for urban areas. Those urban grant allocations included about a 40 percent reduction in funding for New York City and Washington, D.C. Thursday's infrastructure protection grant announcement revealed that the New York and northern New Jersey metropolitan area will receive the largest share of funding for transit systems, with roughly \$47 million for rail security and about \$5.5 million for intra-city bus security.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34479&dcn=e\\_hsw](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34479&dcn=e_hsw)

**5. U.S. agencies lag on security clearances (UPI, 12 Jul 2006)**

WASHINGTON - U.S. officials said Tuesday they will face challenges in meeting congressionally mandated deadlines for faster processing of security clearance applications. The first of these deadlines is scheduled to take effect at the end of 2006, GovExec.com reported Tuesday. "We are not on the path we wanted to be on," said Clay Johnson, deputy director for management at the Office of Management and Budget. "We will fix this." Johnson and officials from the Office of Personnel Management, Defense Department and Defense Security Service discussed the deadlines in the 2004 Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act as part of a panel hosted by OPM.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20060712-061129-1683r>

**6. US gets strong response to port security program (Reuters, 10 Jul 2006)**

NEW YORK - The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has received more than 1,000 documents of feedback on the new rules for workers entering domestic ports, which include fingerprinting and conducting background checks, a TSA spokeswoman said on Tuesday. In late April, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) implemented the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program, which included name-based background checks on nearly 400,000 port workers in the United States. The public was allowed 45 days to submit feedback on the next phase of the program, and the public comment period ended on July 6. TSA would collect workers' biographical information including 10 fingerprints, name, date of birth, address, phone number, alien registration number if applicable, photo, employer and job title.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?F14E5176D>

### **7. TSA testifies on CDL security checks (Fleet Owner, 11 Jul 2006)**

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Deputy Administrator Robert Jamison recently provided an update on the agency's biometric-based vetting programs for commercial drivers in testimony before a U.S. House subcommittee. The testimony came after the introduction of a House bill—the SAFE Truckers Act of 2006—that would require commercial drivers to obtain a security sensitive material (SSM) permit to transport certain freight. TSA completed the rollout of its biometric-based hazardous material endorsement (HME) program for commercial drivers on Jan. 31, 2005. The program vets CDL holders seeking to transport hazmat freight against federal terrorist and criminal databases. According to Jamison, in the 16 months after the rollout, TSA processed nearly 310,000 applications. Currently 33 states and the District of Columbia utilize a TSA-approved vendor and collect fingerprints at 170 enrollment sites. There are 17 states that opted to administer their own fingerprint collection sites, but one of those states is going to switch to a TSA vendor.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C53E2276D>

### **8. Congress Debates Ban on Internet Gambling (AP, 11 Jul 2006)**

Internet gambling is addictive, dangerous and should be outlawed, lawmakers argued Tuesday as the House took up a bill to prevent people from using credit cards or other payment forms to settle online wagers. "The ease of Internet gambling poses a very serious threat to our families and our society," Rep. Tom Osborne, R-Neb., said in support of the bill. The legislation would clarify existing law by declaring Internet gambling illegal. It would cut off payments to betting Web sites and would allow authorities to work with Internet providers to block access to gambling Web sites.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.breitbart.com/news/2006/07/11/D8IPT2GG2.html>

### **9. Lawmakers seek details on DHS plans for detainee surge (GovExec.com, 11 Jul 2006)**

Two House Democrats on Thursday called for the Homeland Security Department to disclose more details on possible plans to buy or lease aging cruise ships to detain illegal immigrants awaiting trial and deportation. The letter, sent to DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff by Reps. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., and Stephen Lynch, D-Mass., seeks all documents pertaining to the Customs and Border Protection agency's potential use of cruise ships to hold illegal immigrants, which was first reported by *Government Executive*. It cited "costly mistakes" the last time the government rented cruise ships -- immediately following Hurricane Katrina -- as the impetus for a congressional review of any plans to use ships again. In September 2005, the Military Sealift Command, acting for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, spent \$236 million on three contracts with Carnival Cruise Lines to house hurricane evacuees and emergency responders.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34477&dcn=e\\_hsw](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34477&dcn=e_hsw)

**10. Come One, Come All, Join the Terror Target List (New York Times, 12 Jul 2006)**

WASHINGTON, July 11 - It reads like a tally of terrorist targets that a child might have written: Old MacDonald's Petting Zoo, the Amish Country Popcorn factory, the Mule Day Parade, the Sweetwater Flea Market and an unspecified "Beach at End of a Street." But the inspector general of the Department of Homeland Security, in a report released Tuesday, found that the list was not child's play: all these "unusual or out-of-place" sites "whose criticality is not readily apparent" are inexplicably included in the federal antiterrorism database. The National Asset Database, as it is known, is so flawed, the inspector general found, that as of January, Indiana, with 8,591 potential terrorist targets, had 50 percent more listed sites than New York (5,687) and more than twice as many as California (3,212), ranking the state the most target-rich place in the nation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?S42E1276D>

**11. Identity theft epidemic on the rise in the U.S. (BYU NewsNet, 12 Jul 2006)**

Kyle McOmber is struggling to recover his identity after discovering that someone three states away was using his Social Security number. McOmber, a BYU sophomore and Farmington native, recently applied for a job. During the routine background check, his supervisor discovered that another individual had been using McOmber's Social Security number for employment in Texas. As illustrated by the experience of McOmber and others, students at BYU are not immune from incidents of identity theft. It is the fastest growing crime in the nation, according to the Identity Theft Reporting Information System (I.R.I.S.). Most people do not realize how easily criminals can obtain personal data without even having to break into a home, according to the United States Department of Justice Web site. McOmber said he never really thought about the possibility of his identity being stolen. "I knew it [identity theft] was a problem, but I never thought it would affect me," McOmber said. Identity thieves stole nearly \$100 million from financial institutions last year, or an average of \$6,767 per victim, according to MY ID Fix, an identity theft prevention and victim center.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://newsnet.byu.edu/story.cfm/60361>

**12. European companies fear US espionage (EU Observer, 11 Jul 2006)**

European companies are increasingly concerned that the US, which is allegedly spying on EU cross-border bank transfers as part of its fight against terror, is also doing this in order to obtain economic data. It recently emerged that the private Belgian company SWIFT, which manages international payments in the EU, has handed over data to Washington. The head of German industry association Ludolf von Wartenberg told Handelsblatt "we hear from many sides that these data can also be used for economic espionage." SWIFT, which stands for the "Society for Worldwide Inter-bank Financial Telecommunications" was thrust into the limelight when the New York Times last month reported that officials from the CIA, the FBI and other US agencies had since 2001 been allowed to inspect transfers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://euobserver.com/9/22059>

**13. Malaysia strengthens bio-terrorism defense system (KazInform, 12 Jul 2006)**

KUALA LUMPUR - Malaysia will spend RM72.45 million (USD1=RM3.65) in the next five years to strengthen its defence against bio-terrorism, Deputy Defence Minister Zainal Abidin Zin said. He said the money would be spent on enhancing the nation's "medical defence" against bio-terrorism and training military personnel to fight bio-terrorists, Kazinform cites Bernama. "The Royal Medical Corps and Armed Forces Medical Service are now training their personnel to fight bio-terrorism and terrorists," he told the Lower House of Parliament sitting Wednesday. He also revealed that the Science and Technology Research Institute of Defence (STRIDE) was collaborating with the Health Ministry on anti-bioterrorism related efforts. The Defence Ministry had also set up a special unit to conduct in-depth research on bio-terrorism, he said. The unit is headed by Colonel Dr Faizal Baharuddin who is a medical specialist.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.inform.kz/showarticle.php?lang=eng&id=143335>

**14. Australia: Suicide-bomber books banned (AP, 12 Jul 2006)**

The Australian government has banned two books that encourage young Muslims to become suicide bombers in Afghanistan. The federal Classification Review Board ruled this week that the books — "Defense of the Muslim Lands" and "Join the Caravan" — violated Australian laws by promoting, inciting or instructing in matters of violence or crime and can no longer be sold or imported to Australia. Both books were written by Abdullah Azzam, whom the classification board described in its rulings as the "godfather of jihad" and a known "mentor to Osama bin Laden."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T1FE4276D>

**STATE AND LOCAL NEWS**

**15. AZ: Smuggling conspiracy charges dismissed in test of new Arizona law (KVOA, 11 Jul 2006)**

PHOENIX A judge dismissed charges today against two Mexican men at the first trial of illegal immigrants charged as conspirators under a new Arizona smuggling law. The law targets immigrant smugglers, but a prosecutor has said that those who paid to be sneaked into the country also can be charged as conspirators to the crime. After two days of testimony, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Thomas O'Toole dismissed charges against the two men. The two men who were among the first 48 immigrants to be charged as conspirators under the 10-month-old law.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=5138716&nav=HMO6>

**16. CA: Research building dedicated (Union-Tribune, 13 Jul 2006)**

The La Jolla Institute for Allergy & Immunology and the drug research firm Gemini Science dedicated a \$43 million building yesterday in their bid to study further infectious diseases and disorders of the immune system. The four-story structure is situated at the

University of California San Diego's Science Research Park, just east of the John & Rebecca Moores Cancer Center. It will house the institute's 230 employees and about 40 researchers for Gemini Science. "This world-class facility provides more space, new labs and cutting-edge equipment . . . to intensify our research," said Mitchell Kronenberg, the institute's president and scientific director.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20060713-9999-7m13allergy.html>

**17. CA: County's Bioterrorism Planning on Track (Los Angeles Times, 12 Jul 2006)**

Los Angeles County is taking many of the right steps to prepare for a potential bioterrorist attack but needs to do a better job justifying how it spends grant money, federal officials have found. Reviewers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention visited the county's terrorism readiness program in May, two months after The Times reported that the health department spent at least \$2 million in federal grant funds for items that were of questionable relevance. The CDC officials, in a report issued last month, complimented the county for working with other public agencies and private groups in its preparations. The agency also praised the county's efforts to track patient visits to emergency rooms so officials can quickly spot unusual diseases or illnesses. But the CDC said the county had sometimes misinterpreted federal spending and budget policies. "This has resulted in delays and multiple efforts to correct information provided," the document said, causing "major roadblocks to performance."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H2503486D>

**18. CA: L.A. looks to create regional emergency radio system (FCW, 11 Jul 2006)**

The Los Angeles area is looking to develop a regional emergency radio system to allow for easier communications during a disaster. A recent report reveals that such a system is feasible to build, but problems lie in its funding, said Kamton Joe, assistant general manager of the L.A. City Information Technology Agency. The agency is trying to create an organization in the greater L.A. area to apply for federal funding from the Homeland Security Department, Joe said. "We have to show the feds that everybody's on board," he said. The organization would include Los Angeles County, the city of Los Angeles and surrounding cities. "It's kind of like a mini-Southern California," Joe said. The region plans to include local funding in its grant application. Joe estimates this project will take five to eight years.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article95207-07-11-06-Web>

**19. CA: Homeland security, cities discuss grant reductions - San Diego could get no money next year (Union-Tribune, 13 Jul 2006)**

Federal homeland security officials, under attack from cities like San Diego that have lost millions in funding under a new grant distribution system, wrapped up an unprecedented meeting yesterday on how issues can be resolved. About 300 public safety and homeland security officials from around the country, who received invitations in June from federal officials, attended the two-day session at the San Diego Hilton in Mission Valley, said Matthew Bettenhausen, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's homeland security director.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20060713-9999-2m13grants.html>

**20. CO: "Coyote" gets jail term in smuggling case (Denver Post, 13 Jul 2006)**

The driver of a van that was packed with people who paid \$1,500 to \$2,500 to be smuggled into the United States was sentenced Wednesday in Denver to 21 months in prison. Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph Mackey said Jorge Apolinar Bernal-Estrada, 28, will be deported to his native Mexico after he serves his sentence and could face up to 20 years in prison if he re-enters the country illegally.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci\\_4044430](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_4044430)

**21. CT: Health employees put a mask on for safety (Greenwich Time, 12 Jul 2006)**

Twenty-one Department of Public Health employees have applied to be fitted for respiratory masks so they can provide needed services in the event of a biological or chemical attack, the town's health director said yesterday. The masks, which remove contaminants through an air-purifying cartridge, cost about \$260. They could be purchased next year with federal grant money, Health Director Caroline Calderone Baisley said. But even if that money doesn't come through, emergency responders in Greenwich already own masks that health officials could use, she said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?B2304186D>

**22. FL: Palm Beach County courthouses called safe, despite 2 security breaches (South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 10 Jul 2006)**

Palm Beach County officials and local law-enforcement have concerns about recent security failures at two courthouses, but the private security firm hired to protect county buildings still is doing a satisfactory job overall, officials say. During "integrity checks" on June 14, a plainclothes Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office deputy successfully entered courthouses in Delray Beach and Palm Beach Gardens with a 9mm handgun strapped to his body. Though metal detectors beeped when the deputy passed through, unarmed officers with Weiser Security allowed the deputy to enter the buildings even after using a wand to check him.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?B21E2276D>

**23. FL: Man indicted in 3 immigrants' deaths during smuggling operation (South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 11 Jul 2006)**

A federal grand jury in Fort Lauderdale indicted a man on second-degree murder charges for allegedly leading an immigrant smuggling operation from the Bahamas that resulted in the deaths of three women, the U.S. Attorney's Office said Monday. The 15-count indictment charges Zhivargo McBride, 24, with alien smuggling for profit, bringing in aliens at a place other than a designated port of entry resulting in death and serious bodily injury, and second-degree murder.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q50F2176D>

**24. HI: Hawaii hospitals quietly prepare for flu outbreak (Star Bulletin, 11 Jul 2006)**

Hawaii could have up to 5,000 hospital admissions -- twice the statewide capacity -- in the first eight weeks if an avian flu pandemic strikes, health officials say. Compounding a potential public health disaster, hospitals already are operating at full capacity with busy emergency departments and a shortage of on-call specialists and nurses. And Hawaii officials have been told not to expect any federal help in a pandemic, said Toby Clairmont, Healthcare Association of Hawaii emergency program manager. "We're assuming we're on our own." However, the state's health leaders and institutions are not just waiting for something to happen.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://starbulletin.com/2006/07/11/news/story04.html>

**25. IN: Flu-fight money to state growing, but shy of hopes (The Journal Gazette, 12 Jul 2006)**

Indiana will get nearly \$4.6 million in the latest round of federal money earmarked for pandemic flu preparedness -- in addition to \$2 million the state received in February for the same reason. But an Allen County health official said the trickle-down is not enough to adequately prepare. "Dr. (Deborah) McMahan (county health commissioner) and myself both feel we are underfunded," said Mindy Waldron, the administrator for the Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health. Waldron said funding was insufficient for bioterrorism and other potential disease outbreaks as well.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/journalgazette/15020236.htm>

**26. KY: Kentucky law adds teeth to ID-theft fight (The Courier-Journal, 12 Jul 2006)**

Starting today, consumers in Kentucky will have some additional tools to fight identity theft. A new law allows Kentuckians to place a freeze for up to seven years on their accounts with the three main credit reporting agencies -- Experian, TransUnion and Equifax -- which means no one can check a consumer's credit without that person's permission. People who are victims of identity theft and have a valid police report will be able to get the freeze for free. Others will have to pay \$10.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?S5204186D>

**27. NM: Forums address pandemic preparedness (The Raton Range, 13 Jul 2006)**

RATON, New Mexico (STPNS) -- State health officials will be in Colfax County this week to collect information from local emergency managers, as well as offer other information to local officials and citizens as part of an effort to prepare communities and New Mexico as a whole to deal with a pandemic disease outbreak. State Department of Health epidemiologists will be on hand at public forums in Raton Tuesday (convention center, 6:30 p.m.), Springer Wednesday (town hall, 6 p.m.) and Eagle Nest Friday (village hall, 6 p.m.). Officials worldwide have been tracking avian flu, which has killed at least 131 people -- mostly in Asia -- since late 2003, according to an Associated Press report. Experts fear the virus, which has been transferred to humans who have had

contact with infected birds, could eventually mutate into a form that would be more easily transferred among humans, the AP report said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.stpns.net/view\\_article.html?articleId=10841081088721108](http://www.stpns.net/view_article.html?articleId=10841081088721108)

**28. NY: N.Y.C. subway checks of backpacks continue (AP, 11 Jul 2006)**

NEW YORK - It was billed as a counterterrorism tactic needed after the deadly mass-transit bombings in London: Any New Yorker entering the city's sprawling subway system would be subject to a random search of backpacks, briefcases and shopping bags. One year and countless searches later, the practice once thought of as a temporary imposition with potential to trample civil rights remains firmly in place while barely causing a stir. The city's top law-enforcement official still insists the measure helps deter terrorism — and has no plans to halt it.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thnt.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060711/NEWS03/607110386/1041>

**29. OH: State gives residents added ID-theft protection (Dayton Daily News, 13 Jul 2006)**

COLUMBUS — Ohioans have a new tool in the fight against identity theft. The Bureau of Motor Vehicles this week announced a new Web site aimed at helping drivers find out if someone else has used their personal information to obtain a fraudulent driver's license. "This Web site is intended to fight the large-scale identity theft cases in which a person's entire identity is appropriated and used fraudulently," Franklin R. Caltrider, the state registrar of motor vehicles, said in a press release. "The reliance on a driver's license as a form of identification means that a criminal who obtains another person's license number and Social Security number can do incredible damage to their victims' credit and reputation."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.daytondailynews.com/localnews/content/localnews/daily/071306license.html>

**30. OH: Fire Department vehicle a new tool to fight terror (Plain Dealer, 12 Jul 2006)**

With a huge American flag as a backdrop, Cleveland Fire Chief Paul Stubbs on Tuesday unveiled the city's newest line of defense in the battle against terror. The truck -- officially called Car 704 -- is the only one of its kind in the nation, officials said. It will allow the Fire Department to assess hazardous materials and biochemical weapons, such as anthrax, at the scene of an incident. "We live in a time of uncertainty, and there seems to be fear happening all around us, so we have to be able to respond quickly and effectively and that's what this vehicle will do," Mayor Frank Jackson said. "The city of Cleveland is extremely proud to be one of the nation's first cities to take such an important step in fighting the terrorism threat and to ensure the safety of our community."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?W11F4276D>

**31. TX: National Guard In El Paso (KFOXTV, 12 Jul 2006)**

Border Patrol officials say within a week national guard troops will be working alongside agents to help secure the U.S.-Mexico border. In New Mexico, along the border, more than 500 guardsmen are already keeping a watchful eye. Within a matter of days, troops will also take their place in the field in the El Paso area. By the end of the year, thousands more will patrol all parts of the border in support of Operation Jump Start, "6,000 for the first year, up to 3,000 for the second year," said David Aguilar, Chief of the Border Patrol In El Paso Wednesday, Aguilar was joined by the national guard, Department of Defense and Homeland Security leaders to talk about the president's plan to beef up border security. "This is an interim measure as the president has been made very clear. We even called it operation jumpstart so we can jumpstart the efforts of the border patrol," said Peter Verga, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/9508783/detail.html>

**32. TX: Odd alarm clock triggers security scare (UPI, 10 Jul 2006)**

HOUSTON - A Jordanian-born U.S. immigrant's unusual laptop-and-timer alarm clock in a travel bag has led to a security review at the Houston airport. Mohamed Anwar Bataineh, 32, was attempting to board a Delta flight for Atlanta when Transportation Safety Administration screeners spotted the suspicious computer wired to an alarm clock, as well as a pair of shoes that appeared to have been hollowed out. They sounded a silent alarm and Houston police officer J.O. Reece responded to the call, ABC News reported. Reece, allowed Bataineh and his unusual alarm clock to continue on. The FBI in Atlanta was waiting for Bataineh and questioned him before determining he posed no threat and that the shoes weren't hollowed out, just worn out.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/view.php?StoryID=20060711-013853-2030r>

**33. TX: School District Bans Mouth Jewelry, Other Items (nbc5i.com, 10 Jul 2006)**

ARLINGTON, Texas - The Arlington school district has expanded its dress codes to include bans on mouth jewelry known as "grills" and the earlobe-stretching practice known as gauging. "The district is having to respond to fads because they've become distracters or a safety hazard for those around them," said Malcolm Turner, the district's executive director of student services. The nearby Irving, Grand Prairie and DeSoto districts also ban grills, and some also address gauging -- the process of placing increasingly large items in the ears to stretch the lobes. But students said the body modification is simply self-expression.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbc5i.com/education/9493327/detail.html?rss=dfw&psp=news>

**34. WV: Customs, border employee training center earmark under fire (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 11 Jul 2006)**

Senate and House lawmakers appear to be heading for a battle over funding to expand the size and role of a new training facility for Customs and Border Protection agents in West Virginia. For the past two years, Senate Appropriations ranking member Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., has put earmarks in the Homeland Security appropriations report for funding to expand the CBP Advanced Training Center near Harpers Ferry Historical Park in his

home state. Byrd added about \$26 million in the fiscal 2006 spending bill and has put about \$32 million in the Senate Appropriations Committee's version of the fiscal 2007 spending bill for construction to expand the center, which sits on about 104 acres of land, an aide to the senator confirmed.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34489&dcn=e\\_hsw](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34489&dcn=e_hsw)

## **KEY PEOPLE**

### **35. NJ: TSA Names Federal Security Director for Atlantic City International and Trenton-Mercer County Airports (U.S. Newswire, 10 Jul 2006)**

WASHINGTON - The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) today named Ronald J. Facciponti as the Federal Security Director (FSD) for Atlantic City International Airport (ACY) in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. and Trenton-Mercer County Airport (TTN) in West Trenton, N.J. Facciponti has been serving as Acting FSD for ACY and TTN since January 2006.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://releases.usnewswire.com/GetRelease.asp?id=69045>

### **36. SD: J. Mark Heisey Named Federal Security Director for Sioux Falls, S.D. (TSA, 12 Jul 2006)**

J. Mark Heisey Named Federal Security Director for Sioux Falls, S.D. Joe Foss Field Washington, DC – July 2006 – The Transportation Security Administration ([TSA](#)) announced Monday (July 10) that J. Mark Heisey has been named Federal Security Director (FSD) at Joe Foss Field Airport at Sioux Falls, S.D. Heisey assumes the position, which has oversight over all TSA security operations at airports in South Dakota, after serving as Acting FSD since December 2005. Mark has done an excellent job as Acting FSD at Sioux Falls, and we are pleased to make his appointment permanent,” said Mike Restovich, TSA Assistant Administrator, Office of Security Operations. “He has demonstrated stellar leadership skills in guiding the airport through a transition from federalized to private screeners, and has a proven track record in managing front-line security.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://hospitality-1st.com/PressNews/TSA-071206.html>

### **37. WI: Richard K. Ruminski Named Sac In Milwaukee - Ruminski will lead the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Milwaukee Field Office**

Washington, D.C. – FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III has appointed Richard K. Ruminski, a 20-year veteran of the FBI, as the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the FBI's Milwaukee Field Office. SAC Ruminski will lead a diverse team of professionals assigned to fighting domestic and international terrorism as well as combatting traditional criminal matters in Wisconsin. He is replacing James E. Finch who was recently named Assistant Director of the FBI's Cyber Division.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel06/ruminski071106.htm>

## **GANG ACTIVITY**

### **38. CA: Aryan Brotherhood Trial Approaches End (AP, 11 Jul 2006)**

SANTA ANA, Calif. - Federal prosecutors said Tuesday the Aryan Brotherhood maintained its reputation as one of the nation's most notorious prison gangs by murdering rivals and its own members who violated gang rules. During closing arguments in the trial of four suspected gang ringleaders, Assistant U.S. Attorney Terri Flynn said the white supremacist organization was ruthless in prison and on the streets. "They killed all those who threatened the criminal enterprise," Flynn said. The inmates are accused of orchestrating 32 murders and attempted murders involving the gang, which was founded in 1964 at California's San Quentin prison. The government is pursuing the case using a federal racketeering law originally passed to target organized crime. It's believed to be one of the largest death penalty cases in U.S. history. Of the 40 people originally arrested, up to 16 could face execution in several trials.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=104&sid=717811>

### **39. IL: Gang-drug panel launches effort in Aurora (The Beacon News, 13 Jul 2006)**

AURORA - The first meeting of the state Gang/Drug Task Force Wednesday started with the facts and figures about the deadly connections between gangs and drug sales. Now the question facing the six-member panel is whether they will be able to turn future sessions into meaningful recommendations to the Legislature. "This program can't just be a feel-good program or it can't work," said state Rep. Linda Chapa LaVia, D-Aurora, who organized the meeting at the Prisco Community Center.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?A1102186D>

### **40. KS: Police say change in gang tactics paying off (The Wichita Eagle, 13 Jul 2006)**

A spike in gang-related shootings in June prompted Wichita police to change tactics -- and it's paying off. Police made the change after 22 shootings were reported between June 3 and 22. Most were gang-related. "June was very busy," said Lt. Jeff Easter, who heads the department's gang unit.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kansas.com/mld/kansas/15026544.htm>

### **41. MD: Man Pleads Guilty in Killing, 2nd Shooting (Washington Post, 12 Jul 2006)**

A 20-year-old suspected member of the street gang MS-13 pleaded guilty yesterday to first-degree murder in the Nov. 6 killing of Edison Roberto Moran in Rockville. Prosecutors said Luis Miranda of Wheaton fatally shot Moran, 22 -- who was not a gang member -- near Veirs Mill Road and Twinbrook Parkway after an altercation at a nearby restaurant. Miranda also pleaded guilty to reckless endangerment in a Nov. 5 incident in which he shot a man inside a car while playing with a revolver.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?F22F4176D>

### **42. NJ: Gangs a growing suburban scourge (Bergen County Record, 11 Jul 2006)**

Pamela Johnson being consoled by nephew Michael Pereira a day after her 15-year-old son, Ricky Lee Smith Jr., was fatally shot outside a Teaneck house party attended by at least a dozen Bloods gang members. Violent street gangs have been quietly spreading out from their urban bases in North Jersey over the last five years and finding new ones in the suburbs of Bergen County, authorities say. They are much less visible than they are in Passaic County, where gang members have staked clear claim to street corners with scrawled graffiti and clothes that spell out their allegiances -- blue-and-white beads for the Crips and red bandannas for the Bloods. But they have been flourishing nevertheless.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M13F2176D>

**43. NY: Mafia cops' freedom will be brief (New York Daily News, 13 Jul 2006)**

My guess is that one way or the other the Mafia cops are going to the can. For life. Although the federal prosecutors put on a masterful RICO case against Louis Eppolito and Steven Caracappa, convicting them on 70 counts in a racketeering case involving eight mob murders, kidnappings, money laundering, bribery, betraying the badge, drug dealing and general felonious low-lifery, Judge Jack Weinstein warned from pretrial hearings on that the racketeering case was "thin." That the statute of limitations aspect of the prosecution, trying to tie together Mafia contract murders in Brooklyn in the late 1980s and early 1990s to a drug-dealing conspiracy in Las Vegas in 2004 as a single ongoing criminal enterprise, was a "ticking time bomb."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nydailynews.com/boroughs/story/434258p-365862c.html>

**44. NC: Duplin arrests gang suspects in local sweep (Goldsboro News-Argus, 12 Jul 2006)**

Duplin County authorities arrested nine people late last week they say are connected to organizing an Hispanic gang in the area and who might already be part of several incidents of robbery and murder. The nine men -- all from out of state -- have been charged with crimes from concealed weapons, altering serial numbers and armed robbery. Duplin County Sheriff Blake Wallace said the investigation will continue.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Z64F1276D>

**45. PA: Feds target Rt. 222 gangs (Intelligencer Journal, 12 Jul 2006)**

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA - The names of the gangs are meant to convey power and intimidate. They call themselves the Black Dragons, the Bloods, the Cash Money Boys, the Crips, the Gangster Disciples, Hells Angels, International Posse, the Latin Kings, the Outlaws, the Pagans, Vatos Locos and 50 Million Soldiers. For years, members of these gangs have wreaked havoc along the 87-mile Route 222 corridor that stretches from Easton to Lancaster, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Since 2005, the Justice department blames gang members for 50 homicides, 1,119 aggravated assaults, 1,163 robberies, 2,667 burglaries and 2,594 drug-related crimes in the cities, including Lancaster, along Route 222.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://local.lancasteronline.com/4/24039>

**46. RI: Reputed mobster pleads guilty to conspiracy charge (AP, 12 Jul 2006)**

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - A reputed member of the Patriarca crime family pleaded guilty Wednesday to conspiring to extort payments from two men. The U.S. Attorney's office said Anthony St. Laurent Sr., 65, known as "The Saint," demanded \$100,000 from each of two victims in addition to \$2,000 weekly payments as part of a shakedown effort. Prosecutor Peter Neronha said St. Laurent was caught on tape April 4 telling two Rhode Island men to meet the victims in Massachusetts and obtain money from them. If the victims refused to pay at least \$50,000, St. Laurent told the men to "smack" or "bash" them, prosecutors said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?W20E5376D>

**47. TN: Anti-gang effort targeting familiar, as well as new gangs and areas (Nashville City Paper, 12 Jul 2006)**

While the Metro Police Department's Operation Safer Streets is busy giving all of Nashville's gang population a hard time, keeping their known gathering places in East and South Nashville under nearly constant surveillance, police are turning more attention to the more violent — and harder to find — Hispanic gangs. Nashville's Hispanic gangs — namely Sur-13 and the Salvadoran MS-13, whose members make their homes down Lafayette and Nolensville Roads — will take up arms against one another for no other reason than name identification, gang unit members said. That is not true of the city's black gangs, such as the Crips, Bloods and Gangster Disciples, who have a very low level of allegiance to their particular gang.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L35F2176D>

**48. Deadly homeboys make a new home in El Salvador (Los Angeles Times, Opinion By Ricardo Pollack, 11 Jul 2006)**

WHEN I FIRST met Duke, he was ironing his shirt. "You gotta look clean, man! You can't go 'round with a creased shirt!" Like many homies, Duke was great at ironing. As I was to find out later, he also was handy with an AK-47. Duke was 30, handsome and charismatic, with a couple of lovely kids. He spoke his English straight out of the streets of Latino L.A.; he loved to rap, and he talked sentimentally about his homeboys, part of the Hollywood Locos section of the 18th Street gang. Except Duke didn't live in L.A. anymore but in downtown San Salvador, El Salvador. Like hundreds of other gang members in this small Central American nation, Duke was deported from the U.S. after being convicted of a criminal offense — in his case, robbery. Although he had lived most of his life in Los Angeles, he was never a citizen. As soon as he got into trouble with the law, he was deported to the country where he was born but that he hardly knew.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H2FD3476D>

**NARCO TRAFFICKING**

**49. AZ: Flow of illegal drugs declines along Arizona border (Washington Times, 13 Jul 2006)**

The seizure of illicit narcotics bound for the United States, especially marijuana, declined last year on the Arizona-Mexico border, U.S. authorities say, attributing the drop to increased interdiction efforts by law-enforcement officers and the presence of the Minuteman volunteers. A U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) law-enforcement bulletin, issued in January but made public yesterday, said marijuana seizure in Arizona fell by 20 percent -- from 894,744 pounds in 2004 to 656,364 pounds last year. Cocaine seizure dropped from 9,511 to 7,011 pounds; heroin went from 149 to 52 pounds; and methamphetamine decreased from 2,173 to 1,913 pounds.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/national/20060712-110600-9074r.htm>

**50. GA: Trio caught trafficking \$14K in cocaine (Access North Georgia, 13 Jul 2006)**

BUFORD - A drug bust in the Friendship Road area of south Hall led to the arrest of three people Tuesday. Hall County MANS Agent Scott Ware said 18-year-old Elizabeth Gilman, 21-year-old Douglas Blake Kilburn, and 17-year-old Michael Anthony Finnegan were arrested Tuesday. "The trio delivered approximately \$14,000.00 worth of cocaine to a location on Friendship Road, in Buford, Hall County," Ware said. All three suspects are charged with trafficking cocaine, but Ware said one of them faces an additional charge.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.accessnorthga.com/news/hall/newfullstory.asp?ID=105273>

**51. ME: State drug agents seize \$300,000 worth of cocaine (Boston Globe, 13 Jul 2006)**

PORTLAND, Maine - Maine drug agents seized \$300,000 worth of cocaine and arrested three people early Thursday, culminating a six-month investigation into drugs flowing into Portland from the Atlanta area, officials said. Charged with aggravated trafficking in cocaine were Chrystal Jones, 23, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Ahmed Abdi Shaur, 25, and Mohamed Abdi Abukar, 21, both of Portland, said Roy E. McKinney, director of the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. Drug agents staked out the Concord Trailways bus terminal when Jones arrived shortly after midnight and moved in when the three left in a rental car.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?R3005286D>

**52. PA: Cocaine is seized on pike (The Tribune-Democrat, 13 Jul 2006)**

FAIRHOPE — State police on the turnpike believe they have uncovered a major drug ring after capturing two Fayette County men hauling an estimated \$500,000 in cocaine. Authorities said 11 pounds of cocaine and 129 stamp bags of heroin were found in the trunk of the car after it was stopped early Tuesday for tailgating a tractor-trailer in Allegheny Township. "Through the investigation, this officer has learned that there is a drug organization operating," Sgt. Anthony DeLuca, commanding officer of the county's turnpike barracks, said in an affidavit. "Individuals are paid to complete certain duties to

further the illegal distribution of cocaine in the Fayette County area ... Members of the organization work alone and collectively to further their enterprise.”

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.tribune-democrat.com/local/local\\_story\\_194001145.html](http://www.tribune-democrat.com/local/local_story_194001145.html)

**53. TX: Dallas Police Make Largest Cocaine Bust Of 2006 (CBS 11 News, 12 Jul 2006)**

DALLAS A police raid at a north Dallas house led to the largest cocaine seizure of the year. CBS 11 News obtained exclusive photos of the 34 kilos removed from a house on Roanoke Avenue, near Dallas Love Field. Police reports say the raid recovered more than \$550,000 in cash and property, along with, "assorted drug paraphernalia packing items."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://cbs11tv.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_193220246.html](http://cbs11tv.com/topstories/local_story_193220246.html)

**54. WI: Detective to plead guilty to running cocaine (JOnline, 12 Jul 2006)**

A former Milwaukee Police detective has agreed to plead guilty to distribution of cocaine, a federal felony, according to a plea agreement filed Wednesday in federal court in Milwaukee. Larry D. White, 35, faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and up to \$2 million in fines, according to the plea agreement. His sentencing date has not been set. White was hired by the MPD in 1997. He was placed on paid suspension about the time he was charged in February. Under department policy, officers lose their jobs if convicted of a felony. White made several trips with drugs and money between Illinois and Wisconsin from late 2004 through summer 2005, according to an FBI affidavit in the case. White was paid \$1,000 for each trip, the affidavit said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=465022>

**55. Canada: Cocaine found hidden in truckload of carrots (Edmonton Journal, 12 Jul 2006)**

Border guards could be forgiven for thinking they were looking for a bunny with a drug habit. The Canada Border Services Agency said today its officers seized 67.5 kilograms of cocaine at the Canada-U.S. border crossing near Vancouver last month — in a truck load of carrots. On June 2, officers became suspicious of a tractor-trailer crossing the border and decided to conduct a search. When they started the search, the driver ran away. Inside the trailer, they found four cardboard boxes containing 61 bricks of cocaine.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?S2FF2476D>

**56. Money-Laundering Cell of Mexican Drug Cartels Identified - United States cites 34 companies and individuals for laundering drug profits (Dept. of State, 12 Jul 2006)**

Washington - The U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has identified 34 companies and individuals associated with two Mexican drug cartels, the Arellano Felix Organization and the Arriola Marquez Organization, under the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (commonly known as the Kingpin Act).

In a July 12 press release, the Treasury Department announced the designation of these 34 entities and persons, and noted that both the Arellano Felix Organization and the Arriola Marquez Organization were named previously by President Bush as Mexican drug kingpins, as defined by the Kingpin Act.

Barbara Hammerle, acting director of OFAC, said, "Our designation process exposes the financial nerve center of Mexican drug cartels, thereby encumbering efforts to bankroll illicit proceeds."

OFAC credited "close coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a key factor" in the designation, and officials from both agencies emphasized the importance of working together to combat organized crime. "DEA and its OFAC partners are committed to bringing traffickers -- from the kingpin to the runner -- to justice, while at the same time stripping them of the money and assets they need to carry on their illicit operations," said Donald Semesky, chief of financial operations for the DEA.

The designated entities and individuals "are subject to the economic sanctions imposed against narcotics traffickers under the Kingpin Act," OFAC explained. "Today's action by OFAC freezes any assets found in the United States and prohibits all financial and commercial transactions between the designees and any U.S. person."

Moreover, "the action taken today brings the total number designated under the Kingpin Act to 270: 62 drug kingpins worldwide, and 79 companies and 129 other individuals in Mexico, Colombia, Jamaica, Peru, Thailand, and St. Kitts," said OFAC.

The [full text](#) of the Treasury Department announcement is available on the department's Web site, as are a [complete list](#) of the individuals and entities designated on July 12 and an [organization chart](#) of the money-laundering cell.

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

### **57. India: Drug smuggling racket busted (The Hindu, 11 Jul 2006)**

CHENNAI: A major drug smuggling racket, making clever use of valid visas and passports of genuine travellers to smuggle heroin into Saudi Arabia, has come to light following the arrest of a person from Malappuram by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) at the Chennai airport recently. The matter has been taken up with the Kerala police. The Bureau's South Zonal Director, Shankar Jiwal, said that following a tipoff, NCB officers intercepted Mayin Kutti, alias Syed Alavi, at the airport here when he was about to leave for Jeddah on July 3.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.hindu.com/2006/07/11/stories/2006071117830300.htm>

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **58. DHS, DOJ update National Info Exchange Model (FCW, 13 Jul 2006)**

The Homeland Security and Justice departments issued a beta version of their National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) June 30, DOJ officials announced today. NIEM allows federal, state, local and tribal law governments to share information through common standards, DOJ officials said in a statement. DHS and DOJ participated in creating the standard, along with law enforcement, public safety, emergency and disaster management, and intelligence partners, according to the statement. Private-sector partners also participated. NIEM currently has seven domains: justice, intelligence, immigration, emergency management, international trade, infrastructure protection and information assurance. It defines a core set of Extensible Markup Language schema terminology and builds on the Global Justice XML Data Model and the Federal Enterprise Architecture Data Reference Model.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article95267-07-13-06-Web>

**59. Wireless tracking technology interests senators (By Heather Greenfield, National Journal's Technology Daily, 13 Jul 2006)**

Senators are becoming increasingly interested in a technology that can track everything from prescription drugs to aircraft parts, and also are likely to focus on the increasing controversy surrounding it. The Senate will launch the Radio Frequency Identification Device caucus at an event Thursday. Sens. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., and John Cornyn, R-Texas, will co-chair the group. Congress has pending legislation to require RFID devices on bottles of the 30 most counterfeited drugs. Wal-Mart and the Defense Department now require all pallets and cases to include the radio tracking devices.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34541&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34541&dcn=e_gvet)

**60. Northrop sees big market for laser defense (Reuters, 12 Jul 2006)**

WASHINGTON - Northrop Grumman Corp. forecast Wednesday a potential "very large" market for a laser-based system it has developed to shield airports and other installations from rockets, ballistic missiles and other threats. Los Angeles-based Northrop said it had already pitched the system, called Skyguard, to Israel, which worked with the company and the U.S. Army to develop the technology. Northrop also is pushing Skyguard -- described as capable of generating a shield five kilometers in radius -- to each of the U.S. armed services and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, company executives told a news briefing. Setting up a protective "bubble" around a typical airport might cost \$25 million to \$30 million once enough systems were installed, said Mike McVey, vice president of directed energy systems at Northrop's Space Technology business unit.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?D26F1276D>

**CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

**61. Identity theft strikes NIH Credit Union (Daily Colonial, 12 Jul 2006)**

The NIH Federal Credit Union—whose members include many GW students, faculty and staff—recently became aware that it was the victim of an identity theft scheme that compromised the records of what the credit union believes is only a small number of their

customers. NIHFCU contacted administrators at the University in late June to make them aware of the current situation, and asked for GW's aid in alerting their customers to the problem. "Even as local and federal law enforcement agencies continue their investigations into this matter, NIHFCU has begun the process of notifying all of its members whose information either has been, or has the potential to be, exposed to others as a result of this incident," said Lindsey Alexander, President and CEO of NIHFCU in a recent press release. "We were merely providing a service to the larger GW community," said Matt Lindsey, a GW Media representative, "A significant number of the NIHFCU's members are connected to GW, and we were simply a means to disseminate information." The Federal investigation into this crime is ongoing, and NIHFCU has hired Identity Theft 911, to help their affected members attain a resolution quickly.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dailycolonial.com/go.dc?p=3&s=2861>

## RESOURCES

### **62. MyPublicInfo Launches Free Online Identity Theft Risk Assessment Service (Market Wire, 12 Jul 2006)**

ARLINGTON, VA - a leader in consumer identity protection, today announced the launch of National Fraud Score ([www.NationalFraudScore.com](http://www.NationalFraudScore.com)), a free online service that assists consumers in evaluating their vulnerability to [identity theft](#) and [fraud](#) and advises them on methods of prevention. National Fraud Score asks consumers thirty five short questions that provide a complete risk analysis by evaluating the level of precaution they take in protecting their identities, as well as their awareness of identity theft practices. Consumers are instantly delivered a score between 0 and 900. Similar to a credit score, higher numbers (900) are better, indicating a lower risk of identity compromise. A free detailed report with a personalized action for improvement is emailed. NationalFraudScore.com also publishes a free electronic newsletter on the latest identity risks and simple ways for consumers to protect themselves. National Fraud Score is especially relevant for veterans. May 2006 saw the largest data breach with 26.5 million veterans' personal information stolen. National Fraud Score gives veterans valuable recommendations on how to protect their identity.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release\\_html\\_b1?release\\_id=143290](http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release_html_b1?release_id=143290)

## FULL REPORTS

### **63. Interpol releases bioterrorism incident preparedness guide at Santiago event (By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, 13 Jul 2006)**

Washington - A July 10-12 workshop concluded in Santiago, Chile, with participants from 26 countries discussing the importance of inter-agency cooperation at the regional, national and international levels in stopping terrorists from carrying out a biological attack.

The Americas Regional Workshop on Preventing Bioterrorism, staged by the global police organization called Interpol, with input from international scientific and legal

experts, aimed to provide information in such areas as biohazards, laboratory security and bioterrorism identification.

Interpol said the workshop also included a simulated major bioterrorism event to underline the importance of interagency cooperation against such terrorist attacks. Interpol says bioterrorism refers to the "intentional release of biologic agents or toxins for the purpose of harming and killing civilians, animals, or plants with the intent to intimidate or coerce a government or civilian population to further political or social objectives."

Among those participating at the Santiago workshop was Andrea Lauritzen, from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Office of International Health Affairs. One part of that bureau works with U.S. government agencies to carry out policies regarding international bioterrorism, infectious diseases, environmental health and health in post-conflict situations.

Another participant, Steven Monblatt, the executive secretary of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism at the Organization of American States, was formerly the State Department's deputy coordinator for counterterrorism. Monblatt participated in a July 11 roundtable discussion at the University of Chile on the principal challenges facing the Americas in matters of counterterrorism.

Interpol Secretary-General Ronald Noble said in a July 13 statement that "many people still question if the threat of bioterrorism is real, and there can be no doubt that it is. Law enforcement agencies and other affected organizations cannot simply sit back and wait for an attack to take place, as doing nothing is not an option."

In his July 10 speech at the workshop, Noble said the world's "most noteworthy bioterrorism attack" was the 2001 anthrax attack in the United States. Noble said that "although the attack was limited in its direct harm to people because anthrax is not contagious, and because it was delivered by mail sent to only a handful of individuals, it still caused five deaths and massive disruptions and losses throughout the world." That attack involved the mailing of letters containing anthrax bacteria to several news media offices and the offices of two U.S. senators.

Noble said there is "much evidence that terrorists have a strong interest in the use of biological weapons, and are planning to use them. We must always remind ourselves of this evidence because this helps us maintain our resolve to prevent such potential harm from actually occurring."

The secretary-general also thanked the State Department's Bureau of International Security and Non-Proliferation Office of Chemical and Biological Weapons Threat Reduction for its recent grant of \$554,000 to support Interpol's new project on biocriminalization. Noble said the project's goal is to assess the criminal and administrative laws relating to biological weapons, and to assist countries in drafting, enacting and enforcing such laws.

## BIOTERRORISM INCIDENT PREPAREDNESS GUIDE RELEASED

The meeting in Santiago also marked the launch of the Interpol Bioterrorism Incident Preparedness and Response Guide. Compiled by experts from Interpol member countries, including the United States, the guide aims to help law enforcement agencies prepare for a bioterrorism incident.

Interpol said the need for awareness and training against potential bioterrorists "cannot be underestimated."

The workshop in Santiago was supported with funding from the Sloan Foundation, a New York-based nonprofit philanthropic institution. The Sloan Foundation also funded two previous counterbioterrorism workshops -- in South Africa in 2005, and in Singapore in March. Two more such workshops are scheduled -- in Russia at the end of 2006, and in Lebanon in 2007.

The State Department says on its web site that compared to other forms of terrorism, bioterror attacks can be "relatively low cost and easily replicated in multiple sites." It adds that in the case of a deliberately induced disease outbreak, governments must decide how to cooperate "to limit the international spread of disease and develop effective response and recovery mechanisms."

The full texts of Noble's [speech](#) and the [Interpol Bioterrorism Incident Pre-planning and Response Guide](#) (PDF, 74 pages) are available on the Interpol Web site.

[Additional information](#) on bioterrorism, biodefense and health security is available on the State Department Web site.

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