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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 47

10 August 2006 CABLE Gram™

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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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. No lotion, long lines in U.S. airports - Governors call out National Guard to bolster security (AP, 10 Aug 2006)

BOSTON, Massachusetts - Airline passengers around the country stood in line for hours and airport trash bins bulged with everything from mouthwash and shaving cream to maple syrup and fine wine Thursday in a security crackdown prompted by the discovery of a terror plot in Britain. U.S. authorities banned the carrying of liquids onto flights after the arrest of 24 people in an alleged plot to blow up U.S.-bound planes using explosives disguised as drinks and other common products.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/TRAVEL/08/10/terror.passengers.ap/index.html>

2. Threat Level Change for the Aviation Sector (TSA, 10 Aug 2006)

In response to a serious terrorist threat to international aviation security, the Secretary of Homeland Security has elevated the Homeland Security Advisory System Threat Condition to Severe, or Red, for all commercial flights from the United Kingdom to the United States, and to High, or Orange, for all other international flights and all domestic commercial aviation. There are approximately 106 flights per day between the United Kingdom and the United States. Although numerous arrests have been made in the U.K. to disrupt and neutralize this threat, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is taking a number of heightened protective measures to ensure the continued safety and security of our international and domestic air travel.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.tsa.gov/press/happenings/threat-change.shtm>

3. New Security Rules Prompt Confusion (New York Times, 10 Aug 2006)

Tightened security rules produced long lines and confusion at American airports today, with passengers missing flights and enduring intensive inspections in reaction to the arrests of alleged bomb plotters in Britain. Dennis McDermott, 53, a certified public accountant who lives in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, arrived at Newark Liberty Airport at 5:15 a.m., expecting to board an early-morning flight to Vancouver, British Columbia. The wait at security was so long that he missed the flight. "The plane left without me," he said. "My luggage is in Vancouver." He said his daughter Jennifer, 14, had been forced to remove her perfume from her handbag and put it checked luggage.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H30412B8D>

4. TSA targets inflight bomb assembly (US News & World Report, 10 Aug 2006)

Assembling bombs in flight and then detonating on board--the alleged outline of the plot that led to the arrests of at least 24 people in Britain--is not an entirely new idea. In early 2004, a British newspaper, the *Observer*, reported that "security sources" believed Islamic militants had conducted "dry runs" on flights between the Middle East, Europe, and North Africa of a brand new style of attack: Suicide bombers would carry *pieces* of explosives, items like wires or batteries not banned on airplanes, past security screeners. They would then build a bomb in flight. Although it's still uncertain whether the Transportation Security Administration has run drills on the exact type of explosives the British plotters were planning to use--sources now say the suspects planned to mix a liquid

substance with a gel to make the bombs meant to down as many as 10 U.S.-bound flights-
-it's clear the TSA has become wise to this general type of plot. In December, the TSA
announced that 18,000 of its screeners had received a new form of training focused on, as
Kip Hawley, the head of TSA, put it, "identifying X-ray images of [improvised explosive
device]. parts, not just a completely assembled bomb." The much-publicized decision to
lift the ban on small nail scissors this winter was designed to give screeners more time to
focus on explosives detection; TSA studies showed screeners opened 1 of every 4 bags to
fish out scissors.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.usnews.com/usnews/news/articles/060810/10tsa.htm>

5. TSA review of new passenger screening system due next month (From National Journal's Technology Daily, 8 Aug 2006)

The Transportation Security Administration next month is expected to complete an overhaul of an airline passenger-screening system, according to a Government Accountability Office inspector. "In early 2006, TSA suspended development of Secure Flight and initiated a reassessment," Cathleen Berrick, director of GAO's homeland security and justice division, told the House Homeland Security Intelligence Subcommittee in response to written questions. She added that the agency expects to finish the reassessment before the end of September. Secure Flight is expected to replace the "no-fly list" currently used by airlines, which has mistakenly ensnarled even some lawmakers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34740&dcn=e_gvet

6. Government changes way it will grade airport screeners (CNN, 8 Aug 2006)

WASHINGTON - For airport screeners, failure is not an option. The Transportation Security Administration is changing the way it grades airport screeners when it tests them on the finer aspects of their jobs. It is replacing the "pass/fail" grades with three alternative scores: achieves standards, exceeds standards, or role model of excellence, according to a TSA announcement to airport screeners. The announcement did not mention a failing grade, although a TSA spokeswoman told CNN those who don't measure up will be scored as "does not meet standards."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/TRAVEL/08/08/airport.screeners/>

7. MARS to Assist TSA "When All Else Fails" (ARRL, 10 Aug 2006)

Amateur Radio operators who are members of the Military Affiliate Radio System ([MARS](#)) will provide back-up communication for the US Transportation Security Administration ([TSA](#)) under a formal agreement announced in July by Army MARS Chief Kathy Harrison, AAA9A. Protecting airports during the hurricane season will be the immediate focus, she said, adding that the new MARS-TSA collaboration "is likely to expand to other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) areas" in the future. "This is an extensive area and will require member support across the continental United States," Harrison said in a broadcast announcement to Army MARS participants. "We will need many volunteers to man teams assigned to specific geographical areas, starting with

airports throughout the hurricane corridor." She called for "physically capable" Amateur Radio operators to volunteer for the assignment.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/08/10/2/?nc=1>

8. 6 of 11 Egyptian Students Now in Custody (AP, 10 Aug 2006)

Six of the 11 Egyptian exchange students who failed to show up for their college program are now in custody after three additional students were arrested Thursday, the FBI said.

El Sayed Ahmed Elsayed Ibrahim, 20, and Alaa Abd El Fattah Ali El Bahnasawi, 20, were arrested at a residence in Dundalk, Md., outside Baltimore, by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents. Chicago police detained Ahmed Mohamed Mohamed Abou El Ela, 22, at OHare International Airport as he was attempting to book a flight to Montana, the FBI said. Immigration agents later took El Ela into custody.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=104&sid=875891>

9. ICE adds seven teams to pursue fugitives (Washington Times, 10 Aug 2006)

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) yesterday said seven new fugitive-operations teams are now functioning in Atlanta; Houston; Los Angeles; Newark, N.J.; Phoenix; Raleigh, N.C.; and Washington. Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Julie L. Myers, who heads the organization charged with enforcing immigration and customs laws, said the new teams bring to 45 the number of fugitive-hunting operations nationwide. "The United States is a land of opportunity, but it is also a nation of laws," said Mrs. Myers. "As such, an immigration judge's order of removal is not optional and must be followed. The addition of these new fugitive teams increases ICE's ability to aggressively pursue immigration violators as part of our nationwide interior-enforcement strategy."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/national/20060809-110541-6527r.htm>

10. Senate leaders agree to take up major port security bill (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 9 Aug 2006)

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Chairwoman Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Commerce Committee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, have reached an agreement to allow a major maritime security bill to move forward, paving the way for floor action in September, according to a congressional source. The bill had been bottled up because it contains provisions that cut across the jurisdictional lines of the two committees. The source said Collins and Stevens have resolved their differences, and Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., has said he will bring the bill to the floor next month.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34750&dcn=e_gvet

11. Rule change prompts rush on passports (Post Crescent, 9 Aug 2006)

In search of white sandy beaches and warm temperatures, snowbirds Jim and Sherry Wismans of Neenah take annual vacations south of the border. To reduce the hassle of bringing other forms of identification, the Wismans obtained passports last year. Turns

out they were ahead of their time. Effective Dec. 31, U.S. citizens traveling by air or sea to Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda will need a passport. On Jan. 1, 2008, the rule expands to those driving across the borders of Mexico or Canada.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?W32451B8D>

12. Interim rule issued on cross-border hazmat cards (eTrucker.com, 9 Aug 2006)

In keeping with previously announced plans, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration published an interim final rule Aug. 7 declaring that commercial motor vehicle drivers licensed in Canada or Mexico may use Free and Secure Trade (FAST) cards as acceptable credentials to transport hazardous materials in the United States. The rule applies to placarded amounts of hazardous materials and to any quantity of a material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 CFR Part 73. Under the 2005 federal highway legislation, Aug. 10 is the day Canadian and Mexican drivers transporting hazardous materials in the United States must begin to undergo background checks similar to those required for hazmat endorsements on U.S.-issued commercial driver's licenses.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.etrucker.com/apps/news/article.asp?id=54789>

13. \$28B helps, but bioterror still a threat (McClatchy News Service, 8 Aug 2006)

WASHINGTON - The federal government's \$28 billion crash program to defend against a bioterror attack is beginning to show up in cities across the country. The FBI headquarters, World Bank and several other potential terrorist targets in the nation's capital have been outfitted with new germ-killing, air-purifying filters. In dozens of other larger cities, technicians now routinely retrieve air samples to test for killer anthrax spores, smallpox-virus particles or other germs. Experts say this infusion of new technology along with medical resources might diminish the casualty toll of a biological attack using classical germ agents. But they acknowledge that despite the vast spending, the nation remains highly vulnerable, especially against new, synthetically created germs for which the United States has no antidotes. "The U.S. does not yet have a coherent biodefense strategy that takes into account the full spectrum of possible bioweapons agents, including engineered threats," Tara O'Toole, a co-founder of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Biosecurity, recently told Congress.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.philly.com/mld/dailynews/news/nation/15224096.htm>

14. Report Warns of Vulnerable Munitions (McClatchy Newspapers, 9 Aug 2006)

Federal investigators are concerned that terrorists could arm themselves with howitzers, recoilless rifles and explosives stashed on Forest Service land. The weapons and munitions are stored in 335 sites nationwide, including in California and other Western states, where managers of ski resorts and federal land use them to blast boulders and prevent avalanches. The problem isn't necessarily broken locks or open doors. The physical security of the Forest Service's munitions magazines was described as "generally" sufficient. Bureaucratically, though, it's been a different story, according to a report by investigators with the Agriculture Department's Office of Inspector General.

Investigators first pinpointed potential weaknesses in the Forest Service's munitions security three years ago, and the new report found that important reforms remained unfinished.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q1F362B8D>

15. U.S. Northern Command to Take Larger Role in Disaster Relief (JINSA, 9 Aug 2006)

The United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM), the newest of America's regional combatant commands, may not be a household name but, as a JINSA delegation learned during a recent visit, it plays a critical role in defending the American homeland from attack whether by terrorists, long-range missiles or natural disasters. Just two weeks ago, Air Force Space Command satellites detected the test launches of six North Korean ballistic missiles and fed the launch information in real-time to operators at USNORTHCOM. Had those missiles posed a threat to the U.S. or its territories, NORTHCOM would have had the primary responsibility in defending the nation using ground-based interceptors located at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., and Fort Greely, Alaska.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?A21733B8D>

16. Government spying on your bank accounts - Financial institutions pass along personal information if there's a hint of suspicious activity (CNN, 9 Aug 2006)

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) - Think you're immune from government scrutiny into your private bank accounts? Think again. Consumers who deviate from their normal pattern of banking with a transaction worth \$5,000 or more could find themselves under the microscope by federal regulators as possible terrorists or money launderers - even if their action was as innocent as suddenly paying off a credit card bill or receiving a sudden inflow of cash to buy a car. While September 11 put the spotlight on terrorist financing and prompted calls by law enforcement for more power in investigating questionable financial transactions, banks have been handing over personal customer information to the government for years.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://money.cnn.com/2006/08/09/news/economy/banks_secrecy/index.htm

17. FBI official: Sweeps of adult entertainment industry off to 'good start' (By Andrew Noyes, National Journal's Technology Daily, 10 Aug 2006)

A series of FBI sweeps aimed at the adult entertainment industry's compliance with federal record-keeping laws are off to a good start, an agency official told reporters Tuesday. Pornographers "expected guns and battering rams, and we came in with suits and pencils," said Chip Burrus, assistant director of criminal investigations at the FBI. Since 1998, porn publishers and video producers have been required to obey Section 2257 of the U.S. code, which requires them to maintain consent forms and proof of ages for performers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34760&dcn=e_gvet

18. Sailor From Oregon Charged With Espionage (Washington Post, 10 Aug 2006)

A U.S. Navy petty officer has been charged with stealing classified military information from his submarine and attempting to pass it to foreign governments in an espionage scheme, Navy officials said yesterday. Fire Control Technician 3rd Class Ariel J. Weinmann, 21, of Salem, Ore., allegedly deserted his submarine, the USS Albuquerque, in July 2005 and took electronic copies of information classified "confidential" and "secret." According to military charge sheets, Weinmann tried to pass information to foreign government officials in three countries, once while on active duty.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?V36252B8D>

19. Court upholds Miami conviction of Cuban spies (Reuters, 10 Aug 2006)

A U.S. appeals court has upheld the convictions of five Cuban men for spying on behalf of Fidel Castro's government, ruling a lower court was right not to move their trial out of Miami despite claims of a biased jury pool. The men, known as the "Cuban Five," were found guilty in 2001 of being part of a ring that infiltrated U.S. military bases and Cuban exile groups and fed information to Havana. In a 10-2 decision issued on Wednesday, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta said greater Miami, a bastion of Cuban exiles opposed to Castro's Communist government, is a "widely diverse, multiracial community of more than two million people."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?A37225B8D>

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

20. AZ: Model Counterterrorism Center Shares Data Old-Fashioned Way (Washington Post, 08 Aug 2006)

On a recent drug bust in Phoenix, law enforcement officials found a vial of white powder that made them suspicious. They called Arizona's joint federal, state and local counterterrorism center, which dispatched a team to investigate. The powder turned out to be triacetone triperoxide (TATP), a highly sensitive explosive similar to the substance that failed "shoe bomber" Richard Reid was found to be carrying on a transatlantic flight in December 2001. Word of the discovery reached the FBI in Washington within 10 minutes. Although arrests and interrogations later determined there was no terrorist connection, it was just the kind of rapid information-sharing envisioned by intelligence changes implemented after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks caught the intelligence community by surprise.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T5F73188D>

21. FL: Marathon won't get screeners from TSA (Miami Herald, 9 Aug 2006)

Airline service slated to start this fall at the Florida Keys Marathon airport may be scrapped due to a shortage of federal security screeners. Delta Air Lines and Continental Connection planned to launch flights to Atlanta, Tampa and Fort Lauderdale beginning in late October and November. But late last month, the Transportation Security Administration notified airport officials that it would not staff Marathon. Now airport

officials are scrambling to try to persuade TSA to reverse its decision. The new service would represent the first scheduled commercial flights since American Eagle pulled out of Marathon in 2000, said Peter Horton, director of airports for Monroe County.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/business/15228457.htm>

22. IL: New Security In Place At Midway Tests Body Samples (NBC5.com, 7 Aug 2006)

CHICAGO - If you plan to fly out of Midway Airport anytime soon, get ready for something new. It's called "the puffer" and it could help you breeze through security lines. "Basically, it takes off body samples in machines," said Erik Doty with the TSA. "We've had in use for less than a month now and it's supposed to move the process along quicker." The new machines caught a few people by surprise Monday, but not a single passenger NBC 5 spoke to at Midway was put off by the new trace portals installed by the Transportation Safety Administration.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbc5.com/news/9643686/detail.html>

23. IN: Indianapolis Sees 13 Slayings in 1 Week (AP, 8 Aug 2006)

A fatal stabbing early Tuesday boosted the city's homicides to 13 in just one week in the midst of an upsurge of violence that has police working longer shifts and saturating high-crime areas. On Monday, Mayor Bart Peterson called for an 11 percent increase in public safety and criminal justice spending in 2007, comparing the crime wave to a crisis such as a tornado. He asked the City-County Council for an extra \$54 million that could come out of the budgets for other city programs. "We're going to have to do what it takes to restore our reputation as a safe city," Peterson said. "We must fight this war now, even as we work together on the funding."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.breitbart.com/news/2006/08/08/D8JC93J03.html>

24. KS: Health department trains for bioterrorism (Eldorado Times, 8 Aug 2006)

Last Friday morning's mass pharmaceutical distribution training also involved the preparation of simulated medications which would be distributed should the county's neighborhood distribution center system need to be implemented. - photo by Steve Smith
Hopefully, those attending Friday morning's meeting were told in the brief video they were watching, they would never need to put the skills they were learning to use. However, they were also told, should that ever come to pass hopefully they would leave the meeting confident they had the ability to put those skills to use. Those attending the meeting (held in the fourth floor meeting room of the historic Butler County Courthouse) were also told they could look for some "drug runners" should they ever find themselves in the situation for which they were preparing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.eldoradotimes.com/articles/2006/08/08/news/news2.txt>

25. LA: FEMA chief says Louisiana getting special help on disaster plans (GovExec.com, 9 Aug 2006)

Federal Emergency Management Agency Director R. David Paulison said Tuesday that Louisiana is getting a larger share of federal resources than other areas as the agency tries to improve disaster planning in the state. "In Louisiana, we're helping them out with evacuation plans and transportation plans," he said, adding "more than anywhere else." Homeland Security Department and FEMA officials said they want state and local agencies to have the greatest presence when disasters strike. Representatives from both DHS and FEMA have indicated publicly that some states have weaknesses in response preparedness, but have not said publicly which ones.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34748&dcn=e_gvet

26. MA: Millinocket targets sex offenders - Ordinance may restrict access to parks, schools (Bangor Daily News, 8 Aug 2006)

MILLINOCKET - The town is poised to become the state's first municipality to enact an ordinance banning convicted sex offenders from loitering at parks, schools and other places children gather. Attorneys from the Maine Municipal Association generally approved the proposed ordinance that town officials hope to have enacted by October, Town Manager Eugene Conlogue said Monday.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.bangornews.com/news/templates/?a=138429>

27. MI: Woman gets 3 years in prison for identity theft - Victims were employees or related to workers of health system (Macomb Daily, 10 Aug 2006)

A 36-year-old woman who stole the identities of 13 people will spend at least three years in prison. Ernestine Dukes of Detroit was sentenced by Judge James Biernat of Macomb County Circuit Court to a minimum of 38 months to 84 months and up to 20 years for stealing the identities of the victims, as well as for delivery of less than 50 grams of cocaine. Dukes, who had no prior criminal record, was accused of ringing up tens of thousands of dollars on credit cards, with one charge traced to Spain. She was caught last December by Fraser police after she charged \$3,000 worth of merchandise at a local ABC Warehouse store. An investigation led to a house in Detroit, where police found the stolen items, illegal drugs and other people's Social Security numbers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.macombdaily.com/stories/081006/loc_idtheft001.shtml

28. NE: Ceremony Takes Place At Future Research Center Site (KETV, 8 Aug 2006)

OMAHA, Neb. - A new research center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center is one small step closer to being completed. A groundbreaking ceremony took place Tuesday morning at the site of where the new Research Center of Excellence II will be built. The second center is expected to be similar to the Durham Research Center that opened in 2003 at UNMC. The total cost for the proposed research center stands at \$74 million. Most of that money comes from private funding, including a donation from Omaha businessman and philanthropist Charles Durham. But \$12 million for the new 10-story building will come from the state's bioterrorism and homeland security funds.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ketv.com/news/9649016/detail.html>

29. NY: New Identify Theft Scams Emerge in Suffolk County (1010 WINS, 8 Aug 2006)

NEW YORK - The Suffolk County Police has sent out a warning to residents regarding three new identity theft schemes that are on the rise in the area. In one case, identity thieves use new technology to display false labels on caller ID screens. This allows perpetrators to convince victims they call to give over personal financial information, because the caller ID screen displays information for a financial institution. In a similar scheme, identify thieves call potential victims pretending to be representatives from financial institutions and claiming to report a problem with the victim's credit card or bank account. The victim is then asked to call a separate number in which an automated recording requests the entry of personal identification via touch tone. The method allows the information to be logged by the identity thieves.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.1010wins.com/pages/66208.php?>

30. OH: Cleveland Hopkins International Airport Adds TSA-Certified Canine Team (PRNewswire, 8 Aug 2006)

CLEVELAND - Today the City of Cleveland and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) introduced a new canine team certified to begin patrolling and screening at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The new team, Sara, a beautiful German Shepherd and her handler, Cleveland Police Officer Michael Moher join the ranks of two other teams assigned to the airport since 2002. Both Sara and Officer Moher are recent graduates of TSA's ten-week National Explosives Detection Canine Training Program (NEDCTP) in San Antonio, Texas. Each canine is selected for keen sensory capabilities and gentle temperament. Individual dogs selected for the program must undergo exacting pre-acceptance screening to demonstrate they are healthy, intelligent, highly motivated, and trainable. Selected dogs are then paired with volunteer officers who, together with their new partner, undergo months of initial training. After certification, each team undergoes several hours of ongoing proficiency training in their operational environment.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060808/dctu021.html?.v=62>

31. TX: Mexican woman accused of smuggling 13,000 rounds (AP, 9 Aug 2006)

McALLEN, Texas - A 42-year-old Mexican woman is accused of trying to smuggle 13,000 rounds of ammunition into Mexico, federal prosecutors said Wednesday. Balbina Morales-Oscoy, of Posa Rica, Veracruz, was arrested at the Pharr international bridge Aug. 4 after U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers said they found 19 boxes of .22-caliber ammunition and about 2,500 rounds of .38 Super ammunition concealed in soft drink boxes in the vehicle she was driving. She was charged with conspiracy to export defense articles, a felony. A federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigation began Aug. 2, after ICE agents received information from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives regarding a vehicle with Mexican plates suspected of being used to export ammunition.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dfw.com/mld/startelegram/news/state/15236938.htm>

KEY PEOPLE

32. Counterintelligence Officials Resign (Washington Post, 10 Aug 2006)

David A. Burt II, director of the Counterintelligence Field Activity, the Defense Department's newest intelligence agency whose contracts based on congressional earmarks are under investigation by the Pentagon and federal prosecutors, told his staff yesterday that he and his deputy director will resign at the end of the month. In an internal message, Burt said, "I do not make this decision without trepidation, but the time is right to move on to the next phase of my career." He said he had been privileged to serve as CIFA director and was "especially proud of all of you and what you have accomplished for the CI [counterintelligence] community and for the overall CI mission." Joseph Hefferon "has also decided to retire, after over 31 years of federal service," according to Burt's message. A Pentagon spokesman yesterday confirmed they were leaving and said it was "a personal decision that they both made together."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L35212B8D>

GANG ACTIVITY

33. IL: 'Gang Book' outlines police challenges (Austin Weekly News, 9 Aug 2006)

The Chicago Crime Commission, a non-profit citizen's organization, released its "Gang Book," this summer, a 278-page report outlining the challenges Chicago and surrounding suburbs face in dealing with street gangs. For Chicago police, there was little new information in the book, but they're glad to see that the book's release is generating greater public awareness of the problems related to gang activity. Police say that cooperation both between police agencies and between police and citizens are keys to battling the gang problem. For more information about, or to purchase a copy of, the Gang Book, visit www.chicagocrimecommission.org

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?D42753B8D>

34. MD: Crips Gang Probe Nets Dozens (AP, 10 Aug 2006)

FREDERICK, Md. - Police have broken up Crips street-gang factions in three mostly rural Maryland counties where organizers from New York had recruited local thugs to sell drugs, Maryland State Police Secretary Col. Thomas E. Hutchins said Thursday. Fifty-three alleged gang members have been arrested in Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties in a two-year investigation by state, county and local authorities, Hutchins said. The more than 150 charges include attempted murder, armed robbery, assaults on police officers, weapons violations and drug crimes. "I'd say they've been dismantled as far as organizational structure, for sure, and it has also probably sent some definite shock waves through the other gangs that are located or active in the area," Hutchins said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=598&sid=877288>

35. NY: Indictment alleges murders by Bronx gang; dozen arrested (AP, 8 Aug 2006)

NEW YORK - A dozen members and associates of a violent street gang were accused of bringing murders, narcotics, robberies and guns to the streets for seven years, authorities announced Tuesday. An indictment in U.S. District Court in Manhattan said the people were part of a Bronx racketeering enterprise known as the Clay Avenue Bloods, a violent street and prison gang. Local police teamed with federal agents over the last year and a half to probe the gang, which was accused of carrying out its crimes from 1998 to 2005. CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H13731B8D>

36. NY: Million dollar cigarette smuggling ring busted (AP, 9 Aug 2006)

Nine people were arraigned Wednesday on felony charges of transporting tens of thousands of untaxed cigarettes - purchased in large quantities at Indian reservations on eastern Long Island and from other sources - and reselling them with counterfeit tax stamps at stores in New York City, officials said. The scheme netted the defendants millions in profits, said Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota. In addition to buying tax-free cigarettes at the Shinnecock and Poospatuck reservations, counterfeit U.S. name-brand cigarettes manufactured in China and smuggled into the United States also were sold by the suspects, Spota said. Also Wednesday, prosecutors announced that 160 people were charged with illegally possessing untaxed cigarettes bought at smoke shops on the reservations. It is a misdemeanor for non-Indians to purchase more than two cartons of untaxed cigarettes and remove them from a reservation; it is a felony to transport more than 10,000 cigarettes, prosecutors said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=local&id=4446322>

37. SD: Biker Gang Shooting in Custer State Park (KELO, 8 Aug 2006)

Authorities are investigating a shooting in Custer State Park in the Black Hills between two rival motorcycle gangs. The South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation confirms five or six members of the Outlaw Motorcycle Club were gunned down Tuesday evening, possibly by members of the Hells Angels. The shootings happened along Legion Lake road just off of Highway 87 in Custer State Park. The extent of the injuries are unclear, but all have been taken to the hospital. One person we're told may be airlifted to Sioux Falls tonight. Authorities are still gathering information and are still on the scene. When we asked if the public was in any kind of danger, they said the area where the shootings happened is "secure." But authorities are looking for a white Ford 350 pickup.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.keloland.com/News/NewsDetail5440.cfm?Id=0,50086>

38. UT: 21 people arrested for Vietnamese "marriage smuggling" operation in Utah (ABC News, 8 Aug 2006)

They claim to be matchmakers. But prosecutors say they're nothing but smugglers. 21 defendants were arrested overnight in what federal authorities are calling the largest marriage smuggling scam they've come across. "Money is at the heart of it," said U.S. Attorney Brett Tolman. "What isn't is love and a genuine commitment to marry." Authorities say four of the 21 indicted are the masterminds behind the alleged scam. According to federal authorities, the group received \$30,000 per marriage proposal. Prosecutors say they paid \$2,000 to so-called recruiters who were U.S. citizens. The recruiters would fly to Vietnam for a pre-arranged marriage and bring the spouse back for citizenship.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E24732B8D>

39. VA: Anti-Gang Grand Jury Produces Its First Indictments (DNROnline.com, 10 Aug 2006)

HARRISONBURG — Six months after being formed, a grand jury investigating gang activity in several jurisdictions in the Shenandoah Valley issued its first indictments this week, according to court records. The multi-jurisdiction grand jury, which meets in Harrisonburg, indicted Justin S. King, 20, on felony charges of gang participation and property destruction. King already is serving a one-year sentence in the Rockingham County Jail after a malicious wounding conviction in June, according to court records. The indictment, issued Monday, alleges that between Aug. 1 and Sept. 4 of last year, King "participated in or was a member of a criminal street gang." A second indictment says he damaged property belonging to Ryder Rentals valued at less than \$1,000.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.rocktownweekly.com/news_details.php?AID=5737&CHID=1

NARCO TRAFFICKING

40. Colombian Plan Seeks Global Response to Cocaine Problem - United States in favor of Shared Responsibility initiative (By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, 10 Aug 2006)

Washington - The government of Colombia has created an initiative to encourage countries that are suppliers of cocaine to consumer nations to work together in battling the global problem.

In an August 10 statement, the U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said the Colombian initiative, called "Shared Responsibility," seeks to find solutions to the threat posed by cocaine production, trafficking and abuse.

A recent U.S. State Department report says Colombia is the source of roughly 90 percent of the cocaine destined for the United States and other world markets and leads the world in coca cultivation. The department's *International Narcotics Control Strategy Report*, released March 1, says the U.S. government has directed a large share of its counternarcotics resources to attacking Colombian coca cultivation, while also helping to thwart a resurgence of coca cultivation in Peru and Bolivia. Coca is the main ingredient used in making cocaine.

Colombian Vice-President Francisco Santos Calderón has taken the lead in the Shared Responsibility initiative, the UNODC said, adding that the cocaine trade cannot be dealt with exclusively from the point of view of either supply or demand.

The UNODC quoted Santos as saying that producer and consumer countries must band together to find joint solutions to the cocaine issue.

The U.N. agency said the initiative is aimed particularly at Europe where the demand for cocaine is particularly high.

"Every line of cocaine that a European snorts is soaked in blood," said Santos. "It is not about trying to find someone to blame, but European countries could certainly do a lot more to combat cocaine consumption."

UNODC Executive Director Antonio Maria Costa said "demand for cocaine is rising in western Europe to alarming levels. I urge European Union governments not to ignore this peril. Too many professional, educated Europeans use cocaine, often denying their addiction, and drug abuse by celebrities is often presented uncritically by the media, leaving young people confused and vulnerable."

A State Department official said in an interview that while the U.S. government is not a sponsor of Shared Responsibility, it is "very much" in favor of the Colombian initiative. The official said the United States, at a "lower-key level," has tried to deliver the same message to the Europeans about the cocaine consumption problem.

The Colombian program, said the official, is not directed at the United States because Washington is already doing "way more than any other country to fight narcotics in Colombia." The official said the United States has given some \$4 billion "over the past 6-8 years" to help Colombia fight its drug production problem, dwarfing what any other country has done to boost Colombia's anti-narcotics efforts. Collectively, Europe represents a larger cocaine market than the United States, the official added.

Colombia's cocaine problem, said the UNODC, starts on the country's coca fields, because that is where Colombia's illegal armed groups -- the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the National Liberation Army, and the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia -- plant land mines to guard their illicit crops. The State Department has designated all three groups as foreign terrorist organizations.

Recently, the UNODC said, the close relationship between Colombia's illicit crops and its land mine problem was unveiled in an investigation conducted by Colombia's Antipersonnel Landmine Observatory, the country's highest national authority on mine action. The investigation found a high correlation between the concentration of cocaine labs and the number of land mine victims, with the "cruellest" mines being found in close proximity to cocaine labs.

The [narcotics control strategy report](#) released by the State Department is available on the State Department Web site.

For more on U.S. policy toward Colombia, see [Andean Region](#).

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

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

41. Your data or your life (Free Software Magazine, 8 Aug 2006)

Your daughter has just been in a car crash. She falls unconscious on her way to the hospital, but not before she is able to tell the paramedics the name of her doctor. This is vitally important because the emergency room won't know that she's an insulin-dependent diabetic with a penicillin allergy, but her doctor will be able to give them her relevant medical history. Or, at least he would be if he'd renewed the tech support contract on his medical records software. He didn't, though, and now his information-and your daughter's-is locked away in a proprietary database he can't access. As unlikely and alarmist as this sounds, it could really happen. Intracare is the publisher of a popular practice management system called Dr. Notes. When some doctors balked at a drastic increase in their annual software lease, they were cut off from accessing their own patients' information. This situation is completely unconscionable. There can be no truly open doctor-patient relationship when an unrelated third party is the de facto owner of and gatekeeper to all related data.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.freesoftwaremagazine.com/node/1709>

42. McAfee releases new identity theft protection products (eChannelLine, 7 Aug 2006)

New security products from [McAfee](#) are designed to protect consumers in three critical areas: the PC, the home network and online. "Consumers have grown increasingly concerned about protecting their personally identifiable information as they search, browse, and transact online," said Marc Solomon, director of product management, McAfee Consumer. "With our new suites, McAfee arms consumers with improved and new technologies protecting them from traditional threats such as viruses, Trojans and spyware, as well as solutions for emerging threats such as rootkits. In addition, McAfee continues its heritage of innovation by providing consumers with an entirely new and important layer of protection that's only available at McAfee: McAfee SiteAdvisor. Available in every new McAfee product, McAfee SiteAdvisor warns consumers that adware, spam and online scams may reside on a Web site with a user friendly rating scheme to help consumers stay safe online."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.echannelline.com/usa/story.cfm?item=21039>

TECHNOLOGY

43. Nanowires built to fight bioterrorism (c|net, 8 Aug 2006)

Scientists have discovered a new method for detecting deadly pathogens like Anthrax or smallpox almost immediately after they've been released into the air. Researchers at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory said this week that they've developed a so-called nanowire bar-code system that could one day be used to create portable, quick-acting sensors designed to identify hundreds of airborne pathogens within minutes. "If there is an outbreak, we want to know in a fast, efficient manner what agent has infiltrated the room," said Jeffrey Tok, a scientist in LLNL's biosecurity and nanosciences lab and the lead researcher on the development. "This technology we've developed signifies an initial, giant step toward accomplishing that."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://news.zdnet.com/2100-9596_22-6103410.html

44. "Angel" Warns Job Seekers of Identity Theft Risk (ConsumerAffairs.Com, 10 Aug 2006)

Millions of Americans use online resume boards to get new jobs and make new connections, posting their resumes for thousands of employers to view. One unforeseen side effect of this practice is that it leaves job hunters wide open to potential data fraud, as virtually all resumes contain personally identifying information, with some unsuspecting job seekers even posting their Social Security numbers online. Now online job hunters can rest a little easier, because there's an "angel" watching out for them, and ready to warn them if they've posted too much sensitive data to be safe. Carnegie Mellon University professor Latanya Sweeney has developed a program called "Identity Angel," a sort of specialized search engine that trolls online job boards and other sources to look for what she calls the "Holy Trinity" of personally identifying information -- a person's name, address, and Social Security number.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2006/08/job_seekers_id_theft.html

RESOURCES

45. OPM releases telework guidance for pandemic flu (GovExec.com, 8 Aug 2006)

The Office of Personnel Management released more telework guidelines last week in response to President Bush's request for a plan to keep federal agencies up and running during crisis situations such as an influenza pandemic. The 16-page guidance document provides little new instruction for agency managers and employees on how to implement telework policies to respond to a potential long-term quarantine. It asks agencies to remember to consider telework in emergency planning. Previous OPM pandemic guidance stated that federal agencies could find ways to encourage employees barred from leaving their homes to work from there in the event of an outbreak.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34723&dcn=e_gvet

EVENTS

46. OR: Free ID-theft seminar to be held Aug. 16 - The class will be free to the public (Appeal Tribune, 9 Aug 2006)

SILVERTON – Identity theft is on the rise and Silverton Police along with the Oregon Attorney General’s office are working to slow the amount of criminals coming into contact with your personal information. On Aug. 16, at 7 p.m. in the community center, Silverton police chief Rick Lewis and Jan Margosian, the consumer information coordinator with the Oregon Department of Justice will offer a free seminar to Silverton and Mount Angel resident interested in learning how identity thieves operate and how to protect yourself from theft and fraud. “Identity theft is becoming a bigger and bigger issue in cities,” Lewis said. “There isn’t a lot of information out there about how easy it is to steal an identity.” During the presentation, Margosian and Lewis will educate residents about how to destroy personal information and give senior citizens the confidence to use computers without fear of being scammed, phished or pharmed for personal information. CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.eastvalleynews.com/appeal/article.cfm?i=7963>

FULL REPORTS

47. U.S. Initiative Seeks To Boost Fight Against Grand Corruption - Strategy to involve international partners, State Department official says (By Andrzej Zwaniecki, Washington File Staff Writer, 10 Aug 2006)

Washington - A U.S. initiative to shut out corrupt high-level officials from the global financial system, deny them safe havens and recover and return proceeds from their crimes has been announced by the Bush administration.

"Our objective is to defeat high-level public corruption in all its forms and to deny corrupt officials access to the international financial system as a means of defrauding their people and hiding their ill-gotten gains," President Bush said in an August 10 statement.

The National Strategy to Internationalize Efforts Against Kleptocracy, as the initiative is called, is aimed at mobilizing the international community against large-scale corruption by high-level foreign public officials and coordinate global efforts to end it, according to a White House fact sheet.

A kleptocracy is a government in which officials seek status and personal gain at the expense of the governed.

Briefing reporters in Washington, Under Secretary of State Josette Shiner said the initiative builds on existing U.S. policies, including the 2004 executive order to deny safe haven to corrupt officials, and commitments made at the July Summit of Group of Eight countries in St. Petersburg, Russia.

But she said the national strategy takes the fight against high-level corruption to a new level by involving U.S. foreign partners and financial institutions in more robust efforts

to develop best practices for uncovering and seizing stolen funds, enhance information sharing and ensure greater accountability for development assistance.

According to the fact sheet, the administration also will beef up investigation and prosecution of U.S. private companies that bribe foreign officials and money-launderers that facilitate flows of embezzled money through the international financial system. In addition, it will seek to develop and promote mechanisms to uncover, capture and return stolen funds to their rightful owners.

In recent years, U.S. authorities have returned millions of dollars to Peru and Nicaragua that had been embezzled by those nations' former leaders.

Shiner said the initiative is part of U.S. drive to engage with all institutions that can have a role in eliminating high-level corruption, including the World Bank, which recently has launched an aggressive anti-corruption campaign.

According to the World Bank, \$1 trillion is paid every year in bribes and according to the United Nations, over \$400 billion has been looted from Africa alone and stashed away in foreign countries.

She said that, ultimately, kleptocracy is a development issue because high-level corruption undermines economic development and renders the fight against poverty ineffective.

The administration does not have a list of former foreign officials and those that are still in power that will be targeted under the new initiative, she said.

"What we are saying today is we are putting kleptocrats on notice," Shiner said. "We want the world to not be a safe place for kleptocrats."

Identifying such corrupt officials, with help of U.S. international partners, will be one of the first actions of an interagency team headed by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, she added.

The [full text](#) of the president's statement and a White House [fact sheet](#) are available on the White House Web site.

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

48. Wahhabism Spreading Throughout the Globe? (Jim Kouri, 8 Aug 2006)

(The following article is based on reports obtained by the National Association of Chiefs of Police.)

Wahhabism is a fundamentalist movement, named after Muhammad ibn Abd al Wahhab (1703-1792). It remains the dominant form of Islam in Saudi Arabia.

Wahhabis believe that some Muslim groups such as Shia or Sunni Islam follow novel or non-Islamic practices. Wahhabi theology advocates puritanical and legalistic stances in matters of faith and religious practice. Wahhabists see their role as a movement to restore Islam from what they perceive to be innovations, superstitions, deviances, heresies and idolatries. There are many practices that they believe are contrary to Islam.

Wahhabism was considered a small sect within Islam until the discovery of oil in Arabia, in 1938. Enormous oil revenues provided the means to spread the beliefs of Wahhabism throughout the Middle East. Saudi laypeople, government officials and clerics have donated many tens of millions of dollars to create Wahhabi-oriented religious schools, newspapers and outreach organizations.

US government and intelligence experts have reported that Islamic extremism is on the rise and that the spread of Islamic extremism is the preeminent threat facing the United States. In addition, various sources alleged that Saudi Arabia is one source that has supported and funded the spread of Islamic extremism, or Wahabbism, globally.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.commonvoice.com/article.asp?colid=5584>

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