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***CABLE Gram***  
Collecting and Broadcasting for Law Enforcement  
Subscription information available at [www.cablegram.org](http://www.cablegram.org)  
Publisher, Zhi Hamby-Nye

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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 48

17 August 2006 CABLE Gram™

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## **FULL REPORTS**

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

Electronic Distribution provided by Richard Forno and Bill Feinbloom of G2-Forward

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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.

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## **FEDERAL**

### **1. Homeland Security Department Gets Better Grades in 2nd Major Test (New York Times, 14 Aug 2006)**

Right after Hurricane Katrina ripped through the Gulf Coast last year, Michael Chertoff, the homeland security secretary, flew to Atlanta for a conference on bird flu - and then

spent months parrying criticism that his department had flunked the first big test of its existence. Last week, the department confronted a second major test, the arrests in [Britain](#) of 24 men suspected of plotting to blow up airliners bound for the United States. In this case, the initial reviews of Mr. Chertoff's performance have been largely positive. The [Homeland Security Department](#) responded quickly to impose new security measures on the fear that some plotters might still be at large.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/14/washington/14chertoff.html?th&emc=th>

## **2. US airport in 'explosives' alert (BBC, 17 Aug 2006)**

An airport terminal in Huntington, West Virginia has been evacuated after explosives tests on two containers in a woman's luggage came up positive. The containers were seen in the woman's hand luggage and subjected to swab tests and sniffer dog examinations, both of which gave positive results. Officials say the woman is of Pakistani origin and was travelling on a one-way ticket to Charlotte, North Carolina. She has been detained and is now being questioned by FBI officials.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/5261456.stm>

## **3. Woman Faces Charges in Flight Scare (AP, 17 Aug 2006)**

A woman on a trans-Atlantic flight diverted to Boston for security concerns passed several notes to crew members, urinated on the cabin floor and made comments the crew believed were references to al-Qaida and the Sept. 11 attacks, according to an affidavit filed Thursday. Catherine C. Mayo, 59, of Braintree, Vt., was to appear in federal court later Thursday on a charge of interfering with a flight crew after disrupting United Flight 923 as it flew from London to Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. The flight, with 182 passengers and 12 crew members, landed safely with the escort of two F-15s after the pilot declared an emergency on board because Mayo spoke of being in Pakistan and made other remarks the crew believed were references to building a bomb. Federal officials quickly dismissed any real terror ties shortly after the flight landed. The scare came just a week after London authorities said they foiled a terror plot to blow up trans-Atlantic flights.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.breitbart.com/news/2006/08/17/D8JI9U180.html>

## **4. Aviation Officials Defend Security Measures (Washington Post, 16 Aug 2006)**

*TSA Criticized for Its Response to Shoe Bombs, Shoulder-Fired Missiles*

Top U.S. aviation security officials yesterday defended stepped-up security measures taken in recent days, rebutting criticism from outside security experts and members of Congress who have questioned whether authorities are prepared to handle potential terrorist threats. Transportation Security Administration officials said they had not decided when they would end the increased screening procedures enacted after British authorities last week said they had unraveled a plot to blow up commercial jets with liquid explosives. The TSA banned all liquids and gels, including bottled water and toothpaste, from aircraft passenger cabins.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E1BE6239D>

#### **5. TSA Chief Defends X-Ray Shoe Screenings (AP, 16 Aug 2006)**

The nation's top aviation security official says X-ray images are an effective way to detect bombs in shoes. A Homeland Security Department study says they aren't. All airline passengers on Sunday were ordered to put their shoes through X-ray machines before boarding their flights, following a foiled terrorist plot to blow up airplanes over the Atlantic. Transportation Security Administration chief Kip Hawley sought Tuesday to debunk a study obtained by The Associated Press that said X-ray images don't supply enough information for airport screeners to detect improvised explosives devices.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=116&sid=881473>

#### **6. Faces, Too, Are Searched at U.S. Airports (New York Times, 17 Aug 2006)**

As the man approached the airport security checkpoint here on Wednesday, he kept picking up and putting down his backpack, touching his fingers to his chin, rubbing some object in his hands and finally reaching for his pack of cigarettes, even though smoking was not allowed. Two Transportation Security Administration officers stood nearby, nearly motionless and silent, gazing straight at him. Then, with a nod, they moved in, chatting briefly with the man, and then swiftly pulled him aside for an intense search. Another airline passenger had just made the acquaintance of the transportation agency's "behavior detection officers." Taking a page from Israeli airport security, the transportation agency has been experimenting with this new squad, whose members do not look for bombs, guns or knives. Instead, the assignment is to find anyone with evil intent. So far, these specially trained officers are working in only about a dozen airports nationwide, including Dulles International Airport here outside Washington, and they represent just a tiny percentage of the transportation agency's 43,000 screeners.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/17/washington/17screeners.html?th&emc=th>

#### **7. Airport Screening Technology Could Include RFID (TechWeb Technology News, 16 Aug 2006)**

The ban on airplane passengers taking liquids on board is one in many steps Transportation Security Administration screeners will take to increase security following the recent foiled United Kingdom terrorist plot. The TSA expects to revisit screening processes for passengers and their luggage, as well as cargo packed into the belly of airplanes. Amy Kudwa, spokeswoman for the department, said Tuesday the TSA will continue to work with manufacturers to perfect various technologies, from screening for chemicals in liquids, to full-body scanning machines, to new uses for RFID technologies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.techweb.com/wire/security/192201366>

#### **8. TSA Chief, DHS At Odds Over Shoe X-Rays - Scans May Or May Not Help Pinpoint Explosives (Aero-News.Net, 17 Aug 2006)**

Are x-ray images an effective way to detect potential explosives hidden in shoes - the kind of attack made infamous by thwarted shoe bomber Richard Reid? Well, it depends

on who you ask. TSA Chief Kip Hawley says yes, x-rays are effective. "Our highly trained transportation security officers can see if a shoe has been tampered with when they view it on the X-ray machine," Hawley told the Associated Press. That conflicts with what those with the Department of Homeland Security - Hawley's bosses - say, however... that no, x-rays don't supply enough information. Scientists tend to agree the real answer lies somewhere in between, and that other tests - such as swapping explosives detection materials on suspected items - add an important level of added security to the process.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E21F3239D>

### **9. Critics Say TSA Must Catch Up With Technology But Homeland Security wants to shift resources to hiring and training more personnel (Los Angeles Times, 17 Aug 2006)**

WASHINGTON - When British authorities foiled an alleged terrorist plot last week to blow up transatlantic jetliners using liquid explosives, they exposed vulnerabilities in U.S. air travel security. The episode also provoked a battle over domestic security spending that is likely to erupt when Congress returns next month from its summer recess.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H5FE2139D>

### **10. Aviation security insecurity (Washington Times, by James G. Zumwalt, 17 Aug 2006)**

In the wake of the recent terrorist plot in the U.K. to blow up 10 commercial aircraft in midair - a plot uncovered, fortunately, before it could be carried out - we still do not seem to understand aviation security. Technology is used in the Israeli aviation security system, but it takes a back seat to the primary defense against terrorism - analyzing human behavior based on intent. A misconception about Israeli security is that it profiles based on ethnicity. It does not. It profiles based on the means by which any passenger might conduct an attack. To make sure security personnel understand the criminal mindset, before being taught to think security, they are trained to think as terrorists. In this manner, they start to identify dozens of behavioral indicators, reflective of criminal intent. They have become so good at this that often criminal activity other than terrorism is uncovered.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/commentary/20060816-090452-1153r.htm>

### **11. Inside the TSA: Screening for Nervous Fliers (ABCNews.com, 16 Aug 2006)**

WASHINGTON - The government has been quietly testing new airport screening tactics in the hopes of preventing terror attacks. Since December, security officials have deployed uniform and undercover agents at airports across the country to watch the behavior of airline passengers. A dozen airports, including those in Washington, Miami and Minneapolis, have been using a technique the Transportation Safety Administration calls "screening passengers by observation." "One of the things that we would be looking for is a person who was profusely sweating," TSA security supervisor Waverly Cousin said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/story?id=2321680&page=1>

### **12. Airline Ownership by Foreigners Delayed (AP, 15 Aug 2006)**

WASHINGTON - The Bush administration is delaying a plan to give foreigners more say in running U.S. airlines. The House and Senate voted earlier this year to prevent the administration from going forward with the plan. Opponents say the administration doesn't have the constitutional right to undo a law that restricts foreign ownership of U.S. airlines to 25 percent. They also say it will undermine safety, security, national defense and U.S. jobs. Jeffrey Shane, the Transportation Department's undersecretary for policy, said Tuesday that the Bush administration recognizes it needs to spend more time discussing it with Congress.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Z3B03249D>

### **13. U.S. border agents ready to react to any Cuban shake-up (Miami Herald, 14 Aug 2006)**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection's air and marine agents will be on the front lines whenever Fidel Castro dies, searching for illegal travelers in the Florida Straits. If you're on a boat heading to Cuba when Fidel Castro dies, chances are U.S. Customs pilots will spot you. Same goes for any Cuban on a vessel pointed to South Florida. With the latest marine radar systems, U.S. Customs and Border Protection can track up to 99 boats at any time. John Beutlich, the agency's new director of air and marine operations in Miami, won't say how much territory his pilots can cover at sea. But Beutlich, who arrived in South Florida in June, says he's ready for anything that Castro's demise brings his way: ``Whatever action occurs, we all know what to do."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/15267899.htm>

### **14. Gonzales orders comparative review of US, UK anti-terror laws (JURIST, 15 Aug 2006)**

US Attorney General Alberto Gonzales on Monday directed the US Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy and Office of Legal Counsel to conduct a comparative review of American and British anti-terrorism laws . Gonzales' order comes just one day after US Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff [official profile] suggested that US lawmakers consider revising US counterterrorism laws to make them more wide-ranging [JURIST report], referring to last week's thwarted terror plot in Britain [JURIST report] as a successful example of more comprehensive surveillance powers. Chertoff said that broad UK counterterrorism laws allowed British authorities to detect and quickly act on the threat in a move that would have likely come under criticism under US counterterrorism law that constitutionally restricts electronic surveillance [JURIST news archive] of suspects.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/paperchase/2006/08/gonzales-orders-comparative-review-of.php>

### **15. Old-School Academy in Post-9/11 World (Washington Post, 17 Aug 2006)**

In a classroom at the FBI Academy in Quantico, instructor Rodney Loose was trying to introduce the history of Islam to a new group of future agents. He had one hour. The 50 men and women would be joining the ranks of an agency whose top officials have declared fighting terrorism to be its No. 1 priority. They listened intently as Loose rushed through his topics: Sunnis and Shiites, the Koran, Mecca and Medina, four-part Arabic names, and the five pillars of Islam. "Can you tell us about sleeper cells?" a recruit asked. "I'm sorry, I don't think we're going to have time to get into this," a frustrated Loose said. "I wish I had more time to go through this. But it's just not possible." Since the FBI came under withering criticism for its part in the intelligence community's failure to prevent the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the bureau has added 37 hours of counterterrorism training at Quantico for new agents. But that represents just 5 percent of the curriculum, and only one hour is about Islam, Arabic culture and understanding the terrorist mind-set.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E1EE2339D>

**16. Deteriorated pipelines highlight importance of inspection and safety measures - U.S. needs to better protect its petroleum operations (AP, Opinion Piece by Al Grillo, 13 Aug 2006)**

The closure of deteriorated BP pipelines in Alaska provides timely lessons about several U.S. energy issues. In response to the fact that BP's slipshod inspection program caused the problem, other major oil companies should be scrambling to closely examine thousands of miles of their own pipelines around the country. Another lesson: Congress must strengthen laws governing the safety and protection of petroleum pipelines. For decades, BP and other oil companies have largely operated on their own in determining when to inspect, repair and replace their supply lines. As a result, many miles of valuable infrastructure around the nation have deteriorated, little noticed by federal regulators.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/opinion/15261223.htm>

**17. ASSE Urges Businesses to Review, Develop Emergency Preparation Plans (Occupational Hazards, 11 Aug 2006)**

With major storms predicted for this hurricane season and the terrorism threat at a high level, the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) urges workplaces and communities to take steps now to be prepared to handle emergencies in an effort to minimize injury and disruption to operations. ASSE notes that there are three critical phases of crisis management: vulnerability assessment, response management and business continuity. "While we may not be able to prevent terrorist attacks or natural disasters, if we are prepared to respond to them we will reduce the incidence of injuries and business disruption," ASSE President Donald Jones Sr., CSP, PE, said. "With the recent terrorist activities and the peak of the hurricane season approaching, we are urging people and businesses to be informed and be prepared."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.occupationalhazards.com/articles/15510>

**18. DHS to speed contractors' exemptions from lawsuits (GovExec.com, By Jonathan Marino, 17 Aug 2006)**

The Homeland Security Department has taken steps to speed up processing of some applications for protection under a 2002 law designed to encourage development of anti-terrorism technology by shielding contractors from lawsuits. A new, expanded application kit for coverage under the 2002 Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies Act incorporates changes based in part on recommendations of companies that found the former process cumbersome, said Brian Finch, an attorney who handles dozens of applications. The so-called SAFETY Act allows contractors that provide anti-terror technologies to DHS to avoid liability in the event of a terrorist attack. In offering such protection, the department is attempting to make homeland security contracts less of a financial risk for companies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34795&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34795&dcn=e_gvet)

**19. Court backs U.S. on prosecuting 2 who received leak - Limiting citizen use of government data sets new standard (Los Angeles Times, 11 Aug 2006)**

Washington - In a ruling with potentially broad implications, a federal judge said Thursday that the Bush administration could use espionage laws to prosecute private citizens who gain access to national defense information. The decision appears to be the first in which a court has found that citizens other than government employees can be charged for receiving and disclosing secret government information, experts said. "It's a momentous ruling with radical implications," said Steven Aftergood, who heads the Project on Government Secrecy for the Federation of American Scientists. "A lot of people who are in the business of gathering information, such as reporters and advocates, are now going to have to grapple with the potential threat of prosecution. The dividing line has always been between leakers, who may be prosecuted, and the recipients of the leak, who have never been. Now that dividing line has been erased."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2006/08/11/MNGNNKGL951.DTL>

**20. Heritage Foundation Official Fingering as Possible Spy Recruit (The New York Sun, 14 Aug 2006)**

WASHINGTON - Prosecutors contend that a former State Department official at the center of an espionage investigation, Donald Keyser, urged Taiwanese intelligence agents to recruit a Heritage Foundation Asia employee as a spy. Keyser identified a senior research fellow at the conservative think tank, John Tkacik Jr., as "ripe for recruitment" in a May 2004 e-mail to a Taiwanese intelligence agent with whom Keyser had an intimate relationship, Isabelle Cheng, according to court records obtained by The New York Sun.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nysun.com/article/37834>

**STATE AND LOCAL NEWS**

**21. AK: Man says he is 'CEO' of identity-theft ring that stole up to \$500,000 (Anchorage Daily News, 17 Aug 2006)**

PALMER - John Bo Phillips confessed to being the leader of an identity-theft ring that stole hundreds of thousands of dollars from Alaskans in a tape-recorded police interview played in Superior Court on Wednesday, the second day of Phillips' trial. Authorities say the ring stole mail from boxes between Anchorage and Fairbanks, used it to create false identities and bilked unwitting Alaskans of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Assistant district attorney Suzanne Powell told jurors Phillips was smug. The 23-year-old North Pole man replied "Yeah" when a police officer asked on the tape if he was "the CEO" of the theft ring.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/crime/story/8090005p-7982693c.html>

**22. AZ: Counterterrorism group issues cellphone advisory - Arizona task force's alert comes 1 day after report of suspicious purchase (AP, 16 Aug 2006)**

TUCSON - Arizona's Counter-Terrorism Information Center issued an advisory Tuesday to law enforcement officials statewide saying there is a possible increase in suspicious purchases of prepaid cellphones occurring nationwide. The advisory from the statewide task force came a day after the Tucson Police Department said it had received a 911 call reporting a suspicious purchase of multiple disposable cellphones at a Sam's Club in Tucson. The advisory also came on the same day that a prosecutor in Ohio dropped terrorism charges against two Michigan men who were arrested after buying large numbers of cellphones; a day earlier, the FBI said it had no information to indicate that three Texas men arrested in Michigan after a similar purchase had direct terror ties.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0816cellphones0816.html>

**23. AZ: 10th Person Dies From Injuries Sustained in U.S. Immigrant Smuggling Crash (AP, 12 Aug 2006)**

YUMA, Ariz. - A 17-year-old boy injured when a car packed with illegal immigrants rolled while fleeing the U.S. Border Patrol has died, bringing to 10 the number killed in the wreck, a Mexican Consulate official said. The boy died Friday at a hospital in Phoenix, where four other injured migrants remain hospitalized, said Jorge Solchaga, head of the protection department of the Mexican Consulate in Phoenix. A premature baby girl born to an injured woman also remains hospitalized.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,208084,00.html>

**24. CA: Immigrant says FBI tried threats to make him spy - He was told he would be deported if he didn't agree, Muslim tells papers (Los Angeles Times, 12 Aug 2006)**

SAN FRANCISCO - The document that federal agents handed to Yassine Ouassif to justify his deportation contained startling language: "The United States government has reason to believe that you are likely to engage in terrorist activity." Ouassif was in exclusive company. Since Sept. 11, only five people have faced that ominous charge. Ouassif was about to become the sixth. The slip of paper offered no details on what was

behind the accusation. As federal officials took him into custody in December, they told the 24-year-old Moroccan - a permanent resident who had moved to California nine months before the terrorist attacks - that he would be taken to a detention facility in Arizona. He could fight deportation from there, but it would take at least two years, they said. And they assured him he would fail.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/headline/nation/4112103.html>

**25. CA: Reporter Goes on Trial, Accused as Taiwan Spy (Los Angeles Times, 16 Aug 2006)**

A reporter accused of spying for Taiwan was put on trial in Beijing, Hong Kong television and a human rights activist said. Ching Cheong, a correspondent for Singapore's main English-language newspaper, the Straits Times, was detained in April 2005, and state media later claimed that he had confessed to selling military secrets to Taiwan and setting up a spy network. His supporters say he is innocent. Ching is a Hong Kong resident who carries a British passport and has permanent resident status in Singapore, according to the Singaporean government.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P3DE2139D>

**26. CA: Border watch gains support (Whittier Daily News, 13 Aug 2006)**

Retired utility worker Charles Warren worries the his quality of life is slipping and says that illegal immigrants are to blame. The 55-year-old retiree complains about day laborers waiting for work outside the nearby Home Depot, saying they give his neighborhood "a Third World look." "Ten or 15 years ago, the neighborhood wasn't like this," Warren said. "The states are overpopulated, there is oversprawl and immigration is contributing to this." After seeing a television commercial that blamed many of California's woes on illegal immigrants, Warren immediately donated \$50 to the sponsoring group - Californians for Population Stabilization. And he's not the only one. Since the Santa Barbara-based group aired the commercials, it has collected thousands of membership applications.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.whittierdailynews.com/news/ci\\_4175567](http://www.whittierdailynews.com/news/ci_4175567)

**27. CA: Identity theft ring foiled - Scheme affected 40 people in Victorville, Pomona and as far away as Perris (Victorville Daily Press, 16 Aug 2006)**

APPLE VALLEY - Authorities have dismantled what they say was a lucrative identity theft ring in the High Desert, with a little help from one of the suspects who walked into the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Tim Visosky from the sheriff's Apple Valley station said a tip received late Friday night helped authorities track and arrest two suspects within just a few days.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/2006/115573523520216.html>

**28. FL: Two men charged with smuggling Cubans (NBC2 News, 16 Aug 2006)**

COLLIER COUNTY: Two men have been officially charged with smuggling 20 Cuban nationals to the U.S. Two boats carrying the refugees came ashore Tuesday morning near Marco Island. Today a grand jury indicted Noel Lopez and Juan Gonzalez Hernandez charging them with one count each of conspiring to bring aliens to the country. The two men are being held at the Lee County Jail under the watch of U.S. Marshals.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbc-2.com/articles/readarticle.asp?articleid=8403&z=3&p>

**29. Guam: Combat Communications Squadron to move to Guam (FCW, 16 Aug 2006)**

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - The 607th Combat Communications Squadron will leave in the coming weeks and move equipment and personnel to Guam, an Air Force official said today. As part of the 607th Air Support Operations Group based at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, the squadron is responsible for rapid mobile communications deployment for wartime contingencies or natural disasters in the entire Korea area of operations.

"That leaves us short now of a combat [communications] capability that can go anywhere within the theater," Col. Vincent Valdespino, director of communications and information at Pacific Air Forces headquarters, told an audience at the Air Force Information Technology Conference at the Auburn University campus.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article95685-08-16-06-Web>

**30. HI: It's 'everyone's worst nightmare' (The Honolulu Advertiser, 16 Aug 2006)**

MARINE CORPS TRAINING AREA BELLOWS - It was only a simulation, but the death and destruction from the half-kiloton nuclear explosion were put in graphic and chilling terms. The crater alone from such an explosion - in this case at Pier 1 at Honolulu Harbor - would be 20 feet deep and have a radius of 220 feet, officials said. Up to 820 feet away, all buildings would collapse under a more than 300-mph blast wave. "The pressure in the air will literally turn concrete into dust," said Martin P. Bagley of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Cars on Ala Moana would be overturned. Doors and windows at the federal building would be blown out, and there possibly would be wall damage. Officials said such a ground blast would result in 200 immediate fatalities, 3,000 to 8,000 casualties with injuries or radiation, and possibly 4,000 longer-term fatalities, depending on issues ranging from time of day to population. The mock disaster, which played out yesterday on an old runway at Bellows and continues today, brought together about 15 federal, state and city agencies in what officials believe is the first "improvised nuclear device" test of its kind in the nation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?O3C01149D>

**31. IA: Former Iraqi spy testifies in Des Plaines case (Daily Herald, 16 Aug 2006)**

After the first Gulf War, Iraq cut back on the number of spies operating at its embassies around the world because of financial constraints, a former Iraqi Intelligence Service officer testified today in Chicago. Muhammed Al-Dani, 52, was called to testify at an evidentiary hearing for Sami Latchin, a Des Plaines resident accused of being a "sleeper" spy for Iraq. Judge Rebecca Pallmeyer ordered the hearing to determine whether

documents the government wants to use in Latchin's trial are admissible. They hope to use Al-Dani to authenticate some of the documents against Latchin. Al-Dani was the former head of the American desk at the IIS and was recruited by the service right out of college in 1975, he testified.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dailyherald.com/story.asp?id=217412>

**32. IN: Bioterrorism Preparedness Training offered in Paris (Tribune-Star, 16 Aug 2006)**

Paris (Ill.) Community Hospital/Family Medical Center along with the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy, Western Illinois AHEC, and SIU Telehealth Networks and Programs will stage a Bioterrorism Preparedness Training via videoconference on Aug. 25 in the medical library at PCH. Community-based nurses and pharmacists are invited to attend the videoconference that will run 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Those in attendance will be eligible to receive 6 1/2 contact hours. The training will address the impact of a bioterrorism event on special populations — pediatrics, geriatrics, disabled, women who are pregnant and/or breastfeeding and people with compromised immune systems.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.tribstar.com/local/local\\_story\\_228232239.html](http://www.tribstar.com/local/local_story_228232239.html)

**33. MD: 'They can be our eyes' - National Guard, Wicomico test how they can work together in emergency response (DelmarvaNow.com, 17 Aug 2006)**

SALISBURY - All emergencies start on the local level. So those Black Hawk helicopters flying over portions of the Lower Shore on Wednesday were there to demonstrate how emergency response will be better - from the local level up. Wicomico County Emergency Services met with the Maryland National Guard to test equipment and inter-office communications, using two Black Hawks as visual aids. "We used to wait for something to happen, then we'd start to work," said Maj. Gen. Bruce Tuxill, the adjutant general of the Maryland National Guard. "That doesn't cut it today. We need to be proactive and think ahead to know how we fit in with emergency management on the local level." The two National Guard Black Hawks, part of the security and support battalion, touched down at the Maryland State Police hangar at the Salisbury-Ocean City: Wicomico Regional Airport to show local emergency management personnel how they can help in the event of an emergency.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T2D02349D>

**34. MA: Cape National Guard Base To Get Intelligence Unit (AP, 12 Aug 2006)**

BOURNE, Mass. - Massachusetts National Guard officials say a new military intelligence unit will be located at Otis Air National Guard Base on the Cape Cod, which lost the 102nd Fighter Wing and 500 jobs last year in the latest round of Defense Department base closures. The unit, which would review digital images from reconnaissance planes and unmanned flying vehicles, would return 390 Guard jobs to Cape Cod and could help keep the Coast Guard at Otis, the Cape Cod Times reported Saturday. The fate of Otis has been uncertain since the Pentagon dissolved the fighter

wing. The transition to a new mission will take place over the next two years, and officials said they will continue to advocate for more military jobs at Otis.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P6E04249D>

**35. MI: Police weren't warned of threat - Alleged threat to Mackinac Bridge wasn't passed on (AP, 16 Aug 2006)**

PETOSKEY - Police in the Mackinac Straits area learned of a potential terrorist threat to the Mackinac Bridge in the same way as everyone else: through the media. As events unfolded following arrests last week of three men accused of plotting to destroy the 5-mile bridge, local police - would-be first responders in any emergency situation - were kept in the dark. No federal or state homeland security officials called authorities in either Mackinaw City or St. Ignace, the chiefs of both departments said. "When the smoke all clears from this situation, we want to find out exactly what we can do to make sure we're in the loop of communication," said Mackinaw City chief Patrick Wyman.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.record-eagle.com/2006/aug/16terror.htm>

**36. MI: Officials Hold 3 on Terror Charges Despite FBI View (Detroit Free Press, 15 Aug 2006)**

Terrorism charges against two groups of Arab Americans arrested with hundreds of prepaid cell phones teetered in Michigan and collapsed in Ohio on Monday as authorities said they lacked evidence that the men intended to use the phones to commit criminal acts. Ohio authorities dropped felony charges against two Dearborn, Mich., men arrested last week after they acknowledged buying about 600 phones in recent months. Osama Sobhi Abulhassan and Ali Houssaiky had been charged in Marietta, Ohio, with soliciting or providing for an act of terrorism and with money laundering. But a county prosecutor said there was not enough evidence to go forward with those charges. Washington County Prosecutor James Schneider said his office would continue to press a misdemeanor charge of lying to police.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T23E6209D>

**37. MI: Officers to learn about identity theft (Gladwin County Record, 15 Aug 2006)**

LANSING – Michigan law enforcement officers will be better equipped to investigate identity theft, credit fraud and counterfeiting complaints thanks to a new training course offered by the Identity Theft Teams of the Michigan State Police (MSP) in conjunction with the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP) and the Michigan Sheriff's Association (MSA). A four-hour course will be offered free of charge to interested law enforcement officers beginning this month. Training sessions will be held in Kalamazoo, Lansing, Marquette, Roscommon, Saginaw and Troy. Officials hope to train approximately 500 officers statewide.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.gladwinmi.com/placed/story/08-15-2006cops.html>

**38. MN: Security to tighten at northern Minnesota border offices (AP, 15 Aug 2006)**

DULUTH, Minn. - The Department of Homeland Security plans to expand its Border Patrol offices in Duluth, International Falls and Grand Marais as part of the effort to tighten security along the Canadian border, officials said Monday. If funding is approved, each of the offices would have room for 50 employees, a helicopter pad and an 8-foot wall or fence by winter of 2008, according to specifications published for potential contractors. "Our buildings in Grand Marais and the Falls were built in the 1960s, and we've been in the Duluth federal building since 1976," said Lonny Schweitzer, assistant chief of the Border Patrol's Grand Forks sector.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.grandforks.com/mld/grandforks/news/15276016.htm>

**39. MO: Armadillos migrate into Missouri, Illinois (UPI, 16 Aug 2006)**

Authorities say global warming may be responsible for the migration of armadillos from Southern states like Texas as far north as Missouri and Illinois. "They are here to stay," Professor Lynn Robbins of Missouri State University tells the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The football-size creatures feast on beetles, grubs and earthworms. It is said they can smell insects through 6 inches of soil. Prolific diggers, their handiwork has left some yards looking as if a "plow had gone through," says Tom Meister, a wildlife damage biologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation in the St. Louis area.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/view.php?StoryID=20060816-042332-8131r>

**40. NY: New York City was warned about plot earlier this week (New York Daily News, 10 Aug 2006)**

NEW YORK - Scotland Yard alerted the New York City police department several months ago about an emerging terror plot - but it wasn't until earlier this week that the city was warned extremists planned to explode bombs on U.S.-bound passenger jets, authorities said Thursday. None of the 24 accused terrorists, including the masterminds of suicide bombings, were arrested in New York. And Mayor Michael Bloomberg said "to the best of our knowledge, there are no members of this group here." But NYPD and Scotland Yard investigators were poring over the alleged plotters' financial, travel and phone records to uncover the network that supported them - and search for possible ties to the U.S.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/0810plot-newyork-ON.html>

**41. PA: Representatives of area agencies learn at an exercise how vulnerable our food supply is. They looked at the milk-supply chain (Philadelphia Inquirer, 15 Aug 2006)**

Start of the milk-supply chain: Weaned calves at a dairy barn in Doylestown. A day before the world learned that containers of liquids might be used by terrorists as weapons, a group of Philadelphia-area security experts were learning about the terrorist threat to milk. The "agroterrorism" exercise organized by St. Joseph's University gave representatives from law enforcement, public-health agencies, emergency management,

and business a "cow-to-carton" demonstration "of how vulnerable our food is," said Bob Tucker, an inspector with the Philadelphia Police Department's counterterrorism division. CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/business/15274474.htm>

**42. TX: 3 Texans arraigned on terror charges (AP, 13 Aug 2006)**

Three Texas men were arraigned yesterday on terrorism-related charges after police found about 1,000 cell phones in their minivan. A magistrate set bond at \$750,000 for each of the men, who are charged with collecting or providing materials for terrorist acts and surveillance of a vulnerable target for terrorist purposes. Officials declined to say how the case relates to terrorism. No pleas were entered at the arraignment at a district court in Caro, about 80 miles north of Detroit. Maruan Awad Muhareb and Louai Abdelhamied Othman, both of Mesquite, Texas, and Adham Abdelhamid Othman of Dallas were stopped before dawn Friday after they purchased 80 cell phones from a Wal-Mart in Caro. Police said they found about 1,000 cell phones, mostly prepaid TracFones, in the minivan.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/national/20060813-122153-4973r.htm>

**43. WA: Port of Seattle evacuated in bomb threat (UPI, 16 Aug 2006)**

The Port of Seattle was evacuated Wednesday after a bomb sniffing dog alerted authorities to possible explosives in a container in Terminal 18. Customs and Border Protection spokesman Mike Milne told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer the dog "alerted on" a container that had been set aside for a standard examination. The bomb team was sent in after it was determined there were objects in the container that were not on the inventory, the newspaper said. It was not immediately known from what ship the container came off, but a terminal employee told the newspaper it may have been from Pakistan.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/view.php?StoryID=20060816-052438-9875r>

**44. WV: TSA - Explosives Detected In Passenger's Bottle (Local6.com, 17 Aug 2006)**

CEREDO, W.Va. - A West Virginia airport terminal was evacuated Thursday afternoon after a bomb-sniffing dog reacted to a bottle filled with a liquid in a passenger's luggage, an airport official said. The Transportation Security Administration said the contents of the water bottle have twice tested positive for explosives. Agency spokeswoman Amy von Walter said security checkpoint screeners got a positive test on a machine that uses swabs to find traces of explosives. A canine team then got a positive hit for explosives as well. A screener noticed the bottle in a woman's carry-on bag as she prepared to board a 9:15 a.m. flight to Charlotte, N.C., said Tri-State Airport Authority President Jim Booton.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.local6.com/news/9696048/detail.html>

**KEY PEOPLE**

**45. President Bush on high-profile visit to counterterrorism hub (Reuters, 15 Aug 2006)**

MCLEAN, Virginia - Buoyed by a poll backing him on security, President George W. Bush paid a visit to the U.S. hub for counterterrorism on Tuesday and seized on a foiled bomb plot as proof the fight was far from over. Bush made the high-profile visit to the National Counterterrorism Center in suburban Washington at a time when both his Republicans and rival Democrats hope to make national security a winning issue in November congressional elections. In a Newsweek poll after British authorities foiled a plot last week to blow up U.S.-bound planes, 55 percent of Americans voiced approval of Bush's handling of terrorism and homeland security, a jump of 11 percentage points from May.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L1F02349D>

**46. NH: New Hampshire Has New Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (Gov Tech, 15 Aug 2006)**

Governor John Lynch swore in Chris Pope as New Hampshire's director of homeland security and emergency management at a State House ceremony. Pope, who was serving as the Concord Fire Chief when nominated for the position by Safety Commissioner Dick Flynn, began work immediately after the ceremony. "Chris Pope will work with state, local and private sector officials to make sure New Hampshire is doing everything possible to prepare for any potential emergency," Lynch said. Pope has served as the City of Concord's fire chief and emergency management coordinator since March 2002. As a member of the Concord Fire Department since 1977, he has held a number of positions including firefighter/paramedic, division commander, battalion chief and special projects coordinator. He recently received a master's degree in National Security Studies, with a focus in homeland security and defense, from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, and has a bachelor's degree in public safety administration.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=100583>

**47. VA: Richmond FBI office getting new chief (Times-Dispatch, 17 Aug 2006)**

Terrorism and organized crime will be top priorities for Richmond's new FBI chief when he assumes command here on Monday. "We have to be right about terrorism, we have to make sure we get that right," said Charles J. "Charlie" Cunningham, 52, who was recently appointed special agent in charge of the FBI's Richmond field office. Among his first tasks, Cunningham said, will be to discern whether any terrorism threats exist in the region and whether his office is addressing it.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q6CF4539D>

**GANG ACTIVITY**

**48. CA: Arrests Made In Bay Area Drug Smuggling Ring (ABCLocal, 12 Aug 2006)**

Five Bay Area residents suspected of being in a drug smuggling ring are facing charges of conspiracy to distribute Ecstasy, according to the San Francisco division of the Drug

Enforcement Administration (DEA). The DEA worked with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to target the Bay Area-based criminal organization that reportedly used imported pianos, automobile transmissions and sofas to smuggle large quantities of Ecstasy into the U.S. since 2000. "When we warn traffickers that we leave no stone unturned when looking for illegal drugs, perhaps we should have mentioned that this includes pianos, sofas and car transmissions," DEA Special Agent in Charge Javier Pena said Thursday in a written statement.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=local&id=4456304>

**49. Wiretapped Calls Could Close Case On Mafia Suspects (WFTV, 17 Aug 2006)**

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. - Prosecutors said evidence against seven men accused of running the Genovese crime family's South Florida operation includes thousands of hours of phone intercepts and more than 150 undercover videotapes. According to a prosecutor, investigators recorded about 12,000 phone calls through court-ordered wiretaps over more than a decade. Prosecutors also have some 10,000 pages of seized documents.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wftv.com/news/9693414/detail.html>

**50. CA: Racial gang violence rife (AP, 16 Aug 2006)**

LOS ANGELES - Alejandro "Bird" Martinez and fellow gang members were joyriding in a stolen van when they came upon a black man parking his car - and decided to kill him. Three of them riddled Kenneth Kurry Wilson and his Cadillac with pistol bullets and blasts from a 12-gauge shotgun. This month, Martinez and three other members of the Avenues, a Hispanic gang, were convicted of federal hate crimes. The verdict this month was one in a series of reminders that racially motivated gang violence is still a Los Angeles reality. Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca cited tensions between black and Hispanic gangs as he redeployed deputies to the Compton area, where four persons were killed in 20 gang shootings during one July weekend. And the federal prosecutor who oversaw the Avenues case announced plans to prosecute other gangs involved in race-based violence.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/culture/20060815-110401-6215r.htm>

**51. CO: Gang gunman gets 180 years (Rocky Mountain News , 15 Aug 2006)**

Gang member Andreas Rubio, the gunman who wounded two children as they slept in their beds, was sentenced to 180 years in prison Tuesday in Denver District Court. Rubio, 20, was convicted of attempted murder and assault for firing several rounds from an AK-47 which pierced the walls of two homes. Kenia and Celine Venzor, who were 12 and 7 at the time, were shot while they were sleeping. During his trial in May, witnesses said the shooting was a response to a text message from a rival who insulted Rubio's gang. The message was sent to Terra Ramirez, 19, who called Rubio to help her out.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?I2015449D>

**52. FL: Community Calls For Gang Violence 'Ceasefire' (CBS4 News, 15 Aug 2006)**

*LIBERTY CITY* A community that is already up in arms over black on black violence is demanding a response from police and residents themselves to put a stop to the gang warfare that continues to claim lives in their Liberty City neighborhood, a day after another gang shooting took the life of a young man. The Reverend Richard Dunn held a press conference Tuesday afternoon after the nephew of a notorious Liberty City Gang leader was gunned down in what appears to be gang retaliation. Four others were also hurt in the shootout.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://cbs4.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_227191825.html](http://cbs4.com/topstories/local_story_227191825.html)

**53. MD: 53 gang arrests announced - Police say 2-year probe disrupted activities in Central, Western Md. (Baltimore Sun, 10 Aug 2006)**

FREDERICK - A two-year investigation has led to dozens of arrests and a disruption of a Crips gang's activities in Central and Western Maryland, authorities said Thursday. A task force of state, county and municipal police departments conducted the investigation, which brought about the arrests of 53 gang members on more than 150 criminal charges, officials said. Among those arrested, police said, were leaders of a Crips' organization that was operating in Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties. "We didn't take down the whole operation, but we took down the biggest part of the organized control of the organization," state police Superintendent Col. Thomas E. Hutchins said at a news conference Thursday in Frederick.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?R1115249D>

**54. MO: Police ask for help to fight gang violence (News-Leader, 12 Aug 2006)**

Returning to a strategy that proved successful more than a decade ago, Springfield Police Chief Lynn Rowe on Friday asked for the community's help in confronting rising crime and gang-related violence. Information and tips from community members were instrumental in the department's efforts to stop an influx in 1994 of about two dozen members of the Chicago-based Gangster Disciples, Rowe said. "What they were really helpful in was providing information specific to crimes," he said, noting that tips can be submitted anonymously through Crime Stoppers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.news-leader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060812/NEWS01/608120375>

**55. NJ: Former city inspector gets 2-year sentence (The Jersey Journal, 17 Aug 2006)**

NEWARK - A former Jersey City Incinerator Authority inspector and reputed Genovese crime family associate was sentenced yesterday to more than two years in federal prison after pleading guilty to extortion and running an illegal gambling operation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nj.com/news/jjournal/index.ssf?base/news-2/115579574243490.xml&coll=3>

**56. NC: WPD forms unit to fight organized crime (WWAY, 14 Aug 2006)**

WILMINGTON - There's been a significant increase in violent crime throughout major cities in the US. Even smaller cities in North and South Carolina have begun to see a rise

in criminal activity. The Wilmington Police Department is fighting back, forming a new unit to crack down on organized crime. Sgt. Amy Dover with the Criminal Conspiracy Unit said, "We work city-wide and our task right now is that we're going to be working on organized groups committing crimes." Drug dealers, taggers and gang members are just some of the people the WPD's new Criminal Conspiracy Unit is looking for.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wwaytv3.com/Global/story.asp?S=5279128>

**57. TX: Summit planned in Tulsa on gang violence (KTEN Local News, 15 Aug 2006)**

TULSA, Okla. State and federal prosecutors and Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor are planning a "gang summit" next month in an effort to find ways to end gang violence in the city.

U-S Attorney David O'Meilia says the goal is to stop children from joining gangs, preventing gang violence and to keep gang members who are in prison from returning to their gangs. Taylor says there are about 150 identified gangs in Tulsa with about 35-hundred members.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kten.com/Global/story.asp?S=5282528>

**58. VA: Anti-gang efforts enhanced - Shenandoah initiative will allow cases to be taken to federal court (Times-Dispatch, 17 Aug 2006)**

WEYERS CAVE - A state prosecutor who has led anti-gang investigations in the Shenandoah Valley now will be able to take cases to federal court to punish members with stiffer penalties. About 20 leaders from local-government and law-enforcement agencies joined federal and state lawmakers yesterday for the latest escalation in the region's effort to quell gang violence.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?D3212249D>

**59. Reputed Montreal 'godfather' to be extradited to U.S. (AP, 17 Aug 2006)**

OTTAWA, Canada - The reputed "godfather" of the Montreal Mafia has lost an appeal against deportation to the United States to face charges stemming from the slayings of three U.S. mob captains in 1981. The Supreme Court of Canada dismissed Vito Rizzuto's case without comment on Thursday. U.S. authorities want to try Rizzuto for conspiracy to murder three captains in the notorious Bonanno crime family in 1981. Rizzuto had argued his deportation was mishandled by Canada's former justice minister. He has been fighting the extradition for two years.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/americas/08/17/montreal.mafia.ap/>

**NARCO TRAFFICKING**

**60. FL: Cocaine Bust (13 Central Florida News, 12 Aug 2006)**

Deputies make drug bust on I-4. A routine traffic stop results in a huge drug bust in Orange County. Sheriff Kevin Beary says deputies, along with the Florida Department of Transportation, made a routine safety stop on a truck at I-4 and Maitland Boulevard,

when their drug-sniffing dog went on the alert. A search of the truck found 50-kilos of cocaine, and a thousand pounds of marijuana.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://cfn13.com/StoryHeadline.aspx?id=17918>

**61. Officials arrest 14 in Fort Pierce crack cocaine sting (TCPalm, 13 Aug 2006)**

FORT PIERCE - Members of the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit and Fort Pierce Police Department's Crime Suppression Unit arrested 14 people Friday night after they conducted a reverse drug sting. . An undercover detective posed as a crack cocaine dealer on the corner of North 11th Street and Avenue D between 9:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m., reports indicated. Authorities arrested 10 Fort Pierce residents, two Port St. Lucie residents and two homeless women. Most residents were charged with purchasing cocaine and possession of cocaine. Several others faced felony tampering with evidence charges for spitting out or throwing the crack cocaine rocks after they were arrested.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www1.tcpalm.com/tcp/local\\_news/article/0,2545,TCP\\_16736\\_4914142,00.html](http://www1.tcpalm.com/tcp/local_news/article/0,2545,TCP_16736_4914142,00.html)

**62. IL: Cocaine, Cannabis, and \$120,000 Found in Arrest (CBS2 Chicago, 12 Aug 2006)**

CHICAGO A bond hearing was scheduled Saturday for a Brighton Park man arrested with \$2.1 million worth of cocaine. Ruben Gomez, 32, of the 2900 block of West 40th Street, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance, according to a Chicago police news release. Police arrested Gomez while executing a search warrant at his 40th Street apartment, where they found 16 kilos of cocaine, 240 grams of cannabis, two cars, a new Harley-Davidson motorcycle, and \$120,000 in cash, the release said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://cbs2chicago.com/local/local\\_story\\_224195455.html](http://cbs2chicago.com/local/local_story_224195455.html)

**63. IN: Drug Raid Gets Cocaine Off Streets (INDY Channel, 14 Aug 2006)**

LAWRENCE, Ind. - Tens of thousands of dollars worth of cocaine was taken off the streets and a man was jailed following a drug bust late Saturday and early Sunday. The raid began Saturday night in Lawrence after an extensive investigation, 6News' Tanya Spencer reported.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/9672693/detail.html>

**64. MD: Police Find Money, Cocaine Hidden In Car Bumpers - Police Seize \$170,000, 53 Pounds Of Cocaine (WBALTV, 16 Aug 2006)**

BALTIMORE - Police said they arrested two men and seized money hidden in a car bumper and more than 50 pounds of cocaine from a car carrier. The Maryland Transportation Authority Police, the Maryland State Police, the Virginia State Police and the Maryland State Comptroller's Office were conducting a joint operation at the Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge to check for stolen vehicles being transported into Maryland on Aug. 9. An MdTA officer pulled over a car carrier for inspection along northbound

US Route 301 prior to the toll plaza. The carrier was hauling a 1996 Oldsmobile sedan and a 2004 Dodge pickup truck, which turned out to be stolen.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thewbalchannel.com/news/9688092/detail.html>

**65. NY: "Major" crack cocaine ring busted in St. Lawrence County (News Watch 50, 14 Aug 2006)**

St. Lawrence County District Attorney Nicole Duve and U.S. Attorney Glenn Suddaby announced today in Canton the arrests of 11 people in a "major" crack cocaine distribution ring that brought drugs from Pennsylvania to St. Lawrence County. Seven St. Lawrence County residents and one Pennsylvania resident were indicted in U.S. District Court on charges of conspiring to possess with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. According to officials, 23-year-old Kyle Harris of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania was the ringleader, supplying the St. Lawrence County suspects with crack cocaine.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C2311249D>

**66. More Than 130 Arrested in Breakup of Heroin Ring (New York Times, 16 Aug 2006)**

More than 130 people were arrested around the country on Tuesday in connection with a Mexican heroin-trafficking ring that federal officials said offered door-to-door deliveries and preyed on recovering addicts. The network, run out of Tennessee, used illegal immigrants from Mexico as couriers to smuggle a potent variety of black tar heroin across Southwest borders and distribute it in rural and urban areas around the United States, the officials said. Armed with about 150 arrest warrants, Drug Enforcement Administration agents along with state and local authorities fanned out in 15 cities from Nashville to Los Angeles and had arrested 138 people on drug charges as of late Tuesday afternoon. Some leaders of the network are still believed to be at large in the United States and in Mexico. The authorities seized more than 17 kilograms of black tar heroin and \$500,000 in cash.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/16/us/16heroin.html>

**67. US holds top Mexico drug suspect (BBC, 16 Aug 2006)**

The US says it has crippled a major Mexican drugs gang with the arrest of Javier Arellano Felix, said to be a leader of a cartel based in Tijuana. At its height, the so-called "Arellano Felix Organisation" is thought to have been the main supplier of cocaine and marijuana to the US. Mr Arellano Felix was arrested on a boat in a joint US-Mexican operation off Mexico's Baja California peninsula.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4800285.stm>

**68. "Mexico's Internal Drug War" (PINR, 14 Aug 2006)**

As U.S. and Colombian authorities began closing smuggling routes through the Caribbean in the late 1980s and 1990s, Colombian criminals began smuggling cocaine

and heroin through the Central American isthmus and Pacific routes. Both smuggling routes invariably led them to Mexico. In the world of organized crime, an individual who wants to smuggle an item into the United States knows they can count on their Mexican counterparts. With an intimate knowledge of the terrain, lists of corrupted officials on the payroll, and decades of perfecting smuggling skills, Mexicans can smuggle just about anything into the United States for the right price. The U.S.-Mexican border is a "soft-underbelly" and a porous border. As a result of the important trade relationship between the United States and Mexico, the border cannot be closed.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.pinr.com/report.php?ac=view\\_report&report\\_id=540&language\\_id=1](http://www.pinr.com/report.php?ac=view_report&report_id=540&language_id=1)

**69. Bolivia has the right to grow coca Commentary by Sam Logan for ISN Security Watch, 17 Aug 2006)**

US decisionmakers should recognize Bolivia's right to grow coca and its progressive policies to control coca growth, rather than single out the country for a regional problem complicated by US drug demand. A pillar of policy for Bolivian president Evo Morales is to defend his belief that the coca leaf is not a drug. His administration is dedicated to zero tolerance for cocaine, but defends the importance of the coca leaf to Bolivian culture, history and social well-being among the country's poorest farmers. Politicians in Washington choose not to make such a distinction, and will likely highlight their differences with the Morales administration when they choose whether or not to renew the Andean Trade Preferences and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA) later this year. It is a decision that could cut up to 100,000 Bolivian jobs and cost the country some US\$320 million in annual revenue.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/news/sw/details.cfm?ID=16539>

**70. Colombian Rebels Linked to Cocaine Trafficking in Chile (Fox News, 12 Aug 2006)**

SANTIAGO, Chile - Colombian rebels attempted to traffic drugs through Chile, police said Saturday in describing the seizure of almost a half-ton of cocaine and the arrests of 12 people, including a former Miss Colombia beauty pageant contestant. Police Gen. Samuel Cabezas said the investigation is still developing "and we are in close consultation with intelligence services in several countries." It was the first time authorities related a drug seizure in Chile to Colombian guerrillas.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,208103,00.html>

**71. Argentine cocaine trade growing - Traffickers are setting up cocaine labs in Argentina, long merely a transit point for cocaine, and creating new addicts with 'paco,' a cheap, toxic byproduct with a short, intense high (Miami Herald, 12 Aug 2006)**

Experts say the sudden availability of *paco*, also known as *basuco*, is a sign that cocaine is being produced in Argentina. The white crystals, left over from refining coca paste into cocaine, are too cheap and low in quality to make them worth transporting. So wherever cocaine is refined, *paco* is sold.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/news/15256722.htm>

**72. Spain: Civil Guard investigate possible drug smuggling submarine (Typically Spanish, 17 Aug 2006)**

The Civil Guard are investigating whether a mini-submarine which was found adrift off the coast of Vigo on Sunday could have been used to transport drugs. The vessel, just 10 metres long, was unmanned at the time it was spotted, but still had fuel in the tank and its engines running. The authorities believe it may have suffered some form of breakdown and was abandoned by its crew.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.typicallyspanish.com/news/publish/article\\_5841.shtml](http://www.typicallyspanish.com/news/publish/article_5841.shtml)

**73. Russian minister warns of Afghan drug threat, migration problem (RIA Novosti, 17 Aug 2006)**

DUSHANBE - Russia's interior minister said Thursday that opium poppy production kept growing in Afghanistan, despite measures taken by the global community to counter it. Since the collapse of the Taliban regime in 2001, the international community has spent hundreds of millions of dollars on efforts to destroy poppy crops, close drug labs, pay subsidies to impoverished farmers and encourage them to cultivate alternate crops.

"Unfortunately, despite all the measures being taken by the world community, opium production in Afghanistan has not declined, but has continued growing every year," said Rashid Nurgaliyev at a meeting of Russian and Tajik Interior Ministry officials in Tajikistan, which borders on Afghanistan, the world's leading supplier of illegal drugs.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://en.rian.ru/russia/20060817/52741304.html>

**74. 7 lashed in Somalia for pot involvement (AP, 17 Aug 2006)**

MOGADISHU, Somalia - Mogadishu's Islamic leaders gave seven men 40 lashes each for using or selling marijuana, meting out the punishment in public Wednesday in a dramatic example of the region's new fundamentalist rule. It was the first public lashing since a militia-backed Islamic group took control of the capital, Mogadishu, in June.

Officials said that the men were arrested two weeks ago, but did not say whether they were tried. The seven were lashed at the Konis Stadium in Mogadishu in front of scores of people. The marijuana was burned before the crowd.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/world/4122332.html>

**75. Opium on rise in Afghanistan (Herald Sun, Australia, 18 Aug 2006)**

OPIUM crops in Afghanistan have hit record levels despite hundreds of millions in anti-drugs funding. The rise could have serious repercussions for an already grave security situation, with drug lords joining the Taliban-led fight against Afghan and international forces. A Western anti-narcotics official said about 150,000ha of opium poppy was cultivated this growing season - up from 104,000ha last year. The UN reported last year Afghanistan made 4500 tonnes of opium, which makes 450 tonnes of heroin, or almost

90 per cent of world supply. This year's findings indicate a failure to eradicate poppy cultivation and continuing corruption.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.news.com.au/heraldsun/story/0,21985,20163986-663,00.html>

**76. Transnational cocaine syndicate shut down (Law & Order, Hong King, 16 Aug 2006)**

Customs officers have helped shut down a transnational cocaine-trafficking syndicate, arresting seven Peruvians. Working with Thai and US authorities, yesterday's operation saw the seizure of 1kg of cocaine in Hong Kong and 6kgs in Thailand, worth about \$5.1 million in total. At 2.30pm officers at Hong Kong International Airport arrested a 33-year-old Peruvian man, who had the cocaine hidden in his body. He had arrived from South America via Johannesburg and Kuala Lumpur.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.gov.hk/en/category/lawandorder/060816/html/060816en08010.htm>

**CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

**77. Terrorists, be afraid of www - The web and al-Qaeda may be the same age, but the power of one will eventually beat the other (Commendary by Alice Miles, Times Online UK, 16 Aug 2006)**

THE WORLD WIDE WEB had its 15th birthday this month. It is no coincidence that over the same period of time, radical Islamist terrorism has emerged as Western democracy's deadly new threat. Al-Qaeda and the web are the same age. Before the web, terrorism remained local. It had to. There were limited physical and secure ways of reaching sympathisers farther afield, of channelling money, of propagandising and recruiting internationally. Before the early 1990s, and al-Qaeda's move to Sudan, Osama bin Laden's operations were local, and limited. Today the Islamist terror network operates internationally through a series of dedicated and sometimes restricted websites; doubtless it uses the web to channel money around the world as well. It was on a supposedly "restricted" website used by extremists that Ayman al-Zawahiri, the deputy head of al-Qaeda, gave warning last month of two large-scale attacks being planned this autumn. Militant websites host announcements from al-Qaeda leaders; the last testaments of suicide bombers; even the beheading of Western hostages.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,6-2314940,00.html>

**78. AOL security breach puts Web on notice (Christian Science Monitor, 11 Aug 2006)**

With each new cycle of high-tech products, computer power soars, plasma TV prices plunge, and cellphone functions multiply. But in the critical arena of privacy and data security, the wheels of progress seem to be moving in reverse. Although the benefits of a Google search or an eBay purchase for most people outweigh the Internet's many threats and nuisances, this firewall factor is taking a big toll in costs and consumer consternation. In recent days a furor has emerged over a colossal miscalculation in which a team at America Online (AOL) publicly posted the Internet search topics of hundreds of

thousands of customers online. The goal was to support academic research about Web traffic, and AOL users' names were replaced by numbers. But that didn't guarantee anonymity. The result was a major breach of trust and privacy that went from abstract concern to concrete fear when The New York Times was able to trace the identity of a Georgia woman based on her search queries.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2006/0811/p03s03-ussc.html>

### **79. Myspace Users May Be at Risk for Identity Theft (ksl.com, 17 Aug 2006)**

Myspace.com is ranked as one of the most popular websites in the world. It's one of many networking sites where people create pages about themselves. Many use it as a form of e-mail to talk among friends, but it's also giving easy access into their lives to millions of strangers, even criminals. There are several different sites where you can create and personalize your own page. You need a college e-mail to have access to Facebook, but it's difficult to know how secure restrictions are for a lot of sites. Like My Space, there aren't many to begin with. Here's what we found.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=429828>

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **80. Tech groups divided over border-crossing cards (By Heather Greenfield, National Journal's Technology Daily, 15 Aug 2006)**

While members of Congress have hit the campaign trail for August, the technology group AeA is campaigning in Washington for the latest legislative initiative to settle a dispute over border-crossing technology. AeA on Monday sent a letter to Capitol Hill asking members to support an amendment to the fiscal 2007 spending bill for the Homeland Security Department. The amendment by border-state Sens. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., and Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, would specify that the "smart cards" for the border comply with a standard called ISO 14443. The cards would contain chips readable at a distance of 10 centimeters, something privacy advocates want. The department favored ultra-high-frequency RFID readable at 30 feet.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34783&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34783&dcn=e_gvet)

### **81. Firms launch security card coalition (By Michael Martinez, National Journal's Technology Daily, 17 Aug 2006)**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - A group of firms that make identification cards and computer chips on Wednesday announced a new industry coalition to educate lawmakers on secure card technologies. The Secure ID Coalition, which is comprised of Gemalto, Infineon Technologies, Oberthur Card Systems, Royal Phillips Electronics and Texas Instruments, is aiming to promote the appropriate use of "smart card" technologies that allow digital security solutions for ID documents. In a telephone interview, Tres Wiley, the director of e-documents at Texas Instruments, said similar industry groups are becoming too large and include so many different kinds of companies that they are no longer able to provide useful advice. The Secure ID Coalition will focus on promoting contact-less smart cards

instead of those that are embedded with radio-frequency identification chips, which are readable from longer distances.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=34800&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34800&dcn=e_gvet)

**82. ESS to Participate in Strong Angel III Integrated Disaster Response Demonstration (PRNewswire, 14 Aug 2006)**

TEMPE, Ariz. - ESS today announced its participation in Strong Angel III, a collaborative demonstration of civil and military cooperation and communication capabilities put together by a partnership of private companies, government agencies, humanitarian and relief agencies and universities. Hosted by San Diego State University and taking place in San Diego August 21-26, Strong Angel III will field test effective means of delivering life-saving humanitarian relief and rapidly deployable communications systems in the wake of major disasters. The core site for Strong Angel III will be the operations center at the San Diego Fire Department Fire Rescue Training Facility site, located at the former Naval Training Center near downtown San Diego. San Diego State University's Visualization Center will be a secondary location.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060814/lam109.html?.v=42>

**83. Mass. companies offer technologies, but TSA has reliability, practicality doubts (Boston Globe Staff, 17 Aug 2006)**

The technology exists to detect liquid explosives - at least three Massachusetts companies have created such tools - but the federal government says it's still not ready to deploy the devices in the nation's airports. The Transportation Security Administration, the federal agency in charge of airport security, is testing products from American Science and Engineering Inc. of Billerica; Ahura Corp. of Wilmington; and General Dielectric Inc. of Acton.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?G12F5239D>

**84. European Researchers Seek to Develop Non-Hijackable Plane (TechNewsWorld, 14 Aug 2006)**

Researchers involved with the Security on Aircraft in the Future European Environment, or SAFEE, program aim to build a non-hijackable airplane that would include computer systems designed to spot suspicious passenger behavior and a collision avoidance system that would help a plane adjust its trajectory if it were to be diverted from its course.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.technewsworld.com/story/52405.html>

**85. Spy cameras fail to focus on street crime (Washington Times, 13 Aug 2006)**

Surveillance cameras like those authorized by the D.C. Council for police investigations and now being put in place have shown limited success in decreasing violent crime in other cities. Baltimore, for example, set up about 80 cameras in May 2005 in high-crime neighborhoods. Volunteers and retired law-enforcement personnel monitor the images in real time, but the cameras have not helped put criminals behind bars. "Generally, the

State's Attorney's Office has not found them to be a useful tool to prosecutors," office spokeswoman Margaret Burns said. "They're good for circumstantial evidence, but it definitely isn't evidence we find useful to convict somebody of a crime."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/metro/20060813-121827-2123r.htm>

**86. Protector Unmanned Surface Vehicle Demonstrated US Navy and Coast Guard (SPX, 17 Aug 2006)**

Minneapolis MN - BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin and Rafael Armament Development Authority, Ltd., have announced the arrival of the Protector Unmanned Surface Vehicle (USV) in the U.S. The companies will be demonstrating the USV's force protection capabilities to the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard and other maritime security agencies. Protector is a remote-controlled USV that is equipped with a stabilized mini-Typhoon weapon system (MK 49 Mod 0), cameras, radar equipment and electro optics. Highly autonomous, the Protector can successfully operate with general guidance from a commander and operator in port, riverine, harbor and coastal waterways - making it an innovative solution for today's critical missions, including force protection, anti-terror, and surveillance and reconnaissance. The Protector was developed by Rafael in response to emerging terrorist threats against maritime assets, and is the only operational USV that exists today.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?U19F5139D>

**87. Lockheed Martin Works With Multi-Sector Crisis Management Consortium to Refine SBInet Solution (PRNewswire, 17 Aug 2006)**

ROCKVILLE, Md. - Lockheed Martin has linked with the Multi-Sector Crisis Management Consortium (MSCMC) in Arlington, VA, as part of the company's ongoing effort to shape its SBInet solution. The Secure Border Initiative (SBInet) is a comprehensive multi-year plan to secure America's borders and reduce illegal immigration. A nonprofit organization sponsored by the National Center for Supercomputing, the MSCMC was designed to address large-scale issues that require the input and expertise of government agencies, academic institutions, and private and nonprofit groups. Through its worldwide connections with academic and scientific research and development organizations, as well as its ability to bring groups together virtually, the MSCMC is equipped to provide unprecedented access to experts in the field of modeling, simulation and data mining.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?V4512249D>

## **RESOURCES**

**88. RAND Book by Brian Michael Jenkins Proposes Anti-Terrorism Strategy and Defends Civil Liberties (PRNewswire, 15 Aug 2006)**

WASHINGTON - Veteran terrorism expert Brian Michael Jenkins recommends a new strategy for America to fight terrorism at home and abroad while vigorously defending U.S. traditions of freedom and civil liberties in a new RAND Corporation book titled

"Unconquerable Nation: Knowing Our Enemy, Strengthening Ourselves." At home, the new strategy relies on citizen involvement and self-reliance as key weapons to wage a decades-long struggle against terrorism. Abroad, the strategy calls on America to destroy the jihadist enterprise with a broad range of military, ideological and political counterterrorism initiatives that will be sustainable for the several decades likely needed to achieve victory. Jenkins began RAND's terrorism research program in 1972, after serving in the Vietnam War as a captain in the U.S. Army Special Forces. Recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on terrorism, he is now a senior adviser to the president of RAND.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060815/cltu515.html?.v=46>

### **89. SSA finalizes rules limiting requests for replacement SSN cards (CCH, 11 Aug 2006)**

The Social Security Administration has adopted as final, temporary regulations that placed limits on the number of replacement Social Security Number cards that will be issued to an individual. The final regulations implement provisions of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (PubL No. 108-458). The 2004 law limits SSN replacement cards to three per year and ten per lifetime for any individual. However, the Administration is permitted to make "reasonable exceptions" on a case-by-case basis in compelling circumstances. Previously, the regulations did not place numerical limits on the number of replacement cards an individual may obtain. The interim regulations were announced on December 16, 2005.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://hr.cch.com/news/uiss/081106a.asp>

### **90. NJ: Centenary offers homeland security course (The Herald, 16 Aug 2006)**

When most Americans think of a target for terrorism, they don't usually imagine chlorine tanks at a pool supplier or a fleet of trucks from a local moving van company. That is why Centenary College will begin teaching a 25-week Homeland Security Certificate course starting this fall. "This is a program intended to give people in small business and education, and anyone who may be interested in working in the homeland security network some foundations and training on the subject of terrorism, disaster management, preparation, an threat assessment," said Shane Fitzpatrick, associate professor of political science at the Hackettstown college.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.njherald.com/351399408989948.php>

### **91. Crisis communications – the importance of inbound messaging (Continuity Central, 11 Aug 2006)**

Never has the need for a crisis communications strategy been as crucial as it is today. The catastrophic events of the past couple of years have shown us that relying solely on traditional communications tools for contacting employees, customers and other constituents in a time of need is not enough for relaying vital information. As the heightened awareness of our vulnerability triggered an increase in business continuity management among government agencies and businesses, our understanding of what

makes a truly effective communications tool is quickly evolving. Until recently, emergency communications focused exclusively on outbound communication-reaching out to constituents-but did not provide a method for receiving vital information from the people being contacted.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/feature0382.htm>

**92. Crisis management key to a company's survival - A crisis is like a powerful fertilizer (Business Edge, 17 Aug 2006)**

Handled well, it can wash down into the soil, feed the roots and help a business grow. Mishandled, it can burn and leave permanent scars. Contrast these two separate incidents involving world-renowned products. In the fall of 1982, seven people died after taking Johnson and Johnson's Extra-Strength Tylenol capsules that had been laced with cyanide. Guided by the company's credo that the focus of its company was its customers, CEO James Burke immediately alerted people to the dangers and recalled 31 million bottles of product, at a cost of \$100 million. The company told customers it would stop production until it could provide tamper-resistant caplets, and launched an investigation to find the culprits. The company also offered to exchange the millions of bottles of Tylenol capsules that had already been sold for Tylenol tablets. Costly, but it saved the firm.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.businessedge.ca/article.cfm/newsID/13239.cfm>

**93. Backfence.com and Alarm.com launch blog on crime (Washington Business Journal, 15 Aug 2006)**

Two Northern Virginia Web companies are teaming up to take a bite out of crime. Vienna-based [Backfence.com](http://www.backfence.com), a Web portal for local communities, and McLean-based [Alarm.com](http://www.alarm.com), a provider of wireless, Web-enabled security-monitoring technology, have launched an interactive blog on Backfence.com's eight local Web sites to keep people informed about crime and safety issues in their neighborhoods. Backfence.com members will be able to get up-to-date statistics on local crime and then comment on safety issues through the new blog, which Alarm.com will sponsor. The ultimate goal, the two companies say, is to create a nationwide "citizen watch" focused on trends and tactics for protecting lives and property.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/stories/2006/08/14/daily22.html?jst=b\\_In\\_hl](http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/stories/2006/08/14/daily22.html?jst=b_In_hl)

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**94. Unisys offers reward for stolen desktop PC (FCW, 15 Aug 2006)**

Unisys, the Veterans Affairs Department's Office of Inspector General and the FBI have announced a reward of as much as \$50,000 for information leading to the recovery of a company desktop computer reported missing on Aug. 7 from Unisys headquarters in Reston, Va. The computer's hard drive contains personal information regarding about 20,000 veterans treated at VA medical facilities in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia in the past four years. Unisys has a contract to monitor the data for insurance claims processing. A company statement said, "There is no evidence to indicate that the individual or the

individuals responsible for the disappearance of the computer had any knowledge of the content of the information stored on the computer."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://govhealthit.com/article95669-08-15-06-Web>

## EVENTS

### **95. U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security to Hold Agroterrorism Field Hearing at University of Georgia (AScribe Newswire, 16 Aug 2006)**

ATHENS, Ga. - The University of Georgia will host a field hearing of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 24 in Masters Hall at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education Conference Center and Hotel. U.S. Rep. John Linder, chair of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack, will chair the hearing, titled "Agroterrorism's Perfect Storm: Where Human and Animal Disease Collide." "An attack on our nation's agricultural resources would have devastating public health and economic consequences," said Chairman Linder. "Experts in Georgia at the CDC, USDA and the University of Georgia are leading a unified front to counter this threat and reduce our vulnerability to dangerous emerging diseases. I look forward to hearing the latest about the mission to prevent damage to America's agricultural resources and our food supply to ensure that it remains the safest and most plentiful in the world."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q63F2239D>

### **96. Language Weaver to Demonstrate Integration of Automated Translation into Homeland Security Support Applications at Intelink Conference; Government tradeshow gives companies the chance to show off information sharing technologies (Business Wire, 16 Aug 2006)**

LOS ANGELES - Language Weaver, a leading software company developing enterprise software for the automated translation of human languages, today announced it will demonstrate multiple applications where automated language translation has been integrated with communications programs that help the homeland security and U.S. defense efforts. The demonstrations will take place at DNI's Intelink and Information Sharing Conference (formerly Intelink), to be held in Denver from August 21-24, 2006, at the Hyatt Regency at Colorado Convention Center. Language Weaver, exhibiting in Booth 511, will demonstrate applications that are already in use today by various government organizations and some that have yet to be instituted. These include a demo of media monitoring of Arabic television broadcasts translated into English text, cross-lingual Web search applications, and a portable speech-to-speech translator system that helps soldiers in the field communicate with Iraqi citizens and military commanders.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M1612149D>

## FULL REPORTS

**97. Mexico Seizes Methamphetamine Superlab, U.S. Agency Announces - Anti-methamphetamine efforts by United States said to lead to discovery, seizure (By Eric Green, Washington File Staff Writer, 14 Aug 2006)**

Washington - Mexican authorities have seized a large-scale clandestine methamphetamine laboratory discovered August 1 near the Mexican city of Guadalajara, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced.

The DEA said August 10 approximately 100 kilograms of finished methamphetamine, 3,000 liters of various solvents and chemicals and four barrels of iodine were seized in the raid. A large hydraulic press used to finish the methamphetamine product and chemicals used to manufacture generic cough syrup also was seized. Four individuals were arrested at the lab by Mexican authorities and will be prosecuted in Mexico, said the DEA.

The agency said U.S. initiatives intended to boost Mexico's fight against methamphetamine helped lead Mexican authorities to the massive lab. Because of its size and production capability, the laboratory is classified as a "superlab," the DEA said.

The United States announced in May a comprehensive anti-methamphetamine initiative that included training for nearly 1,000 Mexican police officials on a variety of investigative enforcement and regulatory methods related to methamphetamine trafficking.

DEA Administrator Karen Tandy said the new U.S. "anti-meth initiative with Mexico is already making a difference in our fight to combat this deadly and highly addictive drug. Through extensive training and enhanced intelligence sharing, this bi-national law enforcement working agreement should keep meth traffickers looking over their shoulders every second of the day."

U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said May 18 that about 80 percent of all methamphetamine purchased in the United States originates from Mexican labs. But he added that the United States fully acknowledged "that without the strong American demand for these toxic substances, there would be no financial incentive for Mexican organizations to continue to produce" methamphetamine. (See [related article](#).)

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) said in a June 19 statement that new data from employer drug tests showed that the United States is making "significant progress" in the effort to reduce methamphetamine use in this country. The data showed that the number of people testing positive in the United States for methamphetamine had hit a two year low. (The [full text](#) of the ONDCP statement is available on the White House Web site.)

The ONDCP also announced in June it was launching a new communications campaign in the United States aimed at preventing use of methamphetamine in this country's Hispanic community. The English and Spanish-language campaign messages warn about

the adverse effects of methamphetamine, which include hallucinations, mood disturbances, delusions, paranoia, and brain damage.

[Additional information](#) about the campaign is available on the White House Web site.

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

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

### **98. What will fly: The new rules of European air travel (Stars and Stripes, 15 Aug 2006)**

Trying to stay current these days on the do's and don'ts of air travel can trip up even the most experienced traveler.

U.S. military officials in Europe and the United States encourage Defense Department personnel on this side of the Atlantic to routinely check for changes in policy. The Transportation Security Administration, [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov), sets such policies for the Department of Homeland Security.

Even the Air Force's Air Mobility Command is following the TSA's lead.

"All of the TSA standards are being implemented at our AMC terminals," said Angel Lopez, a spokeswoman for AMC headquarters at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Those adjustments were made last week. But in the current environment, guidelines and policies can change overnight.

### **U.S. flights**

The Transportation Security Administration has spelled out what you cannot carry on flights within or to the U.S. Here are some prohibited items:

- Makeup.
- Aerosol spray bottles and cans.
- All creams and lotions, including Neosporin or first-aid creams and ointments, topical or rash creams and ointments, suntan lotions and moisturizers.
- Eye drops (see exceptions below).
- Gel deodorants.
- Hair styling gels.
- Lip gels and balms.
- Mascara.
- Nonprescription liquid or gel medicines.
- Mouthwash.
- Saline solution (exceptions below).
- Shampoos and conditioners.
- Toothpaste.

- Food.
- All beverages.
- Baby teething rings with gel or liquid inside.

Here are some items that can be carried on:

- Eye drops and/or saline solution - you are allowed to carry up to 4 ounces of eye drops.
- Prescription and nonprescription medications and other medical needs.
- Baby formula and food, breast milk and other baby items.
- Laptop computers, cellular phones, iPods, and other portable electronic devices. These items must still be screened at the security checkpoint.

For the full list of permitted and prohibited items, go to [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov).

## **United Kingdom**

Regulations apply to all passengers flying out of airports in the U.K., including those transferring from international flights, according to the Department of Transport Web site.

Each passenger is permitted one carry-on bag. Its dimensions must not exceed a maximum length of 17.7 inches, width of 13.7 inches and depth of 6.2 inches, including wheels, handles, side pockets.

Other bags, such as handbags, may be carried as the single item of cabin baggage. All items carried by passengers will be X-ray screened.

No liquids of any type are permitted, other than essential medicines in liquid form sufficient and essential for the flight (e.g. diabetic kit), as long as verified as authentic, and baby milk and liquid baby food (the contents of each bottle or jar must be tasted by the accompanying passenger).

All laptops and large electrical items must be removed from the bag and placed in a tray so they neither obscure nor are obscured by the bag;

Pushchairs and walking aids are permitted but must be X-ray screened. Wheelchairs are permitted but must be thoroughly searched.

For more information, go to: [www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk).

## **Germany**

Some restrictions apply for flights to the U.S. or England.

No water bottles, beverages, sun cream, hair gel or similar substances are permitted. Exceptions are medicines and baby food. Parents may be asked to taste the baby food in front of security officials.

For all other flights leaving the Germany, normal travel regulations and restrictions apply.

For more information, call the Frankfurt Airport Service Hotline at 0900-159-9006.

## **Italy**

ENAC, Italy's authority for the security of airlines, issued a bulletin Monday that banned liquids, gels or sprays from flights bound for the United Kingdom, United States and Israel.

Medications and food for children are exempt, but must be tested before permitted beyond the security gates.

Travelers from Italy bound for one of those three countries can carry gel or aerosol products only if bought in the commercial areas past the security check, said Luigi Irdi, a spokesman for Italy's Ministry of Transportation.

These rules are in effect until Aug. 31, when ENAC officials will revisit the restrictions and determine if they should remain in place.

Such restrictions have not been imposed on flights bound to other parts of the world. However, Italian airport officials tightened security restrictions and are conducting random, manual inspections of some travelers' carry-on luggage.

## **99. Preventing Attacks Central to Effective Counterterrorism Strategy - U.S. attorney general outlines strategy against terrorists, post-9/11 reforms (By David McKeeby, Washington File Staff Writer, 17 Aug 2006)**

Washington – The disruption August 10 of a trans-Atlantic terrorist plot to blow up U.S. air carriers highlights the international community's progress in preventing attacks before they occur, says U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

“Prevention is the goal of all goals when it comes to terrorism, because we simply cannot and will not wait for these particular crimes to occur before taking action,” Gonzales said in an August 16 speech to the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh.

As attorney general, Gonzales serves as the top U.S. law enforcement officer, providing legal advice to the president and overseeing the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The war on terrorism, the attorney general said, highlights the challenges of confronting an enemy who takes advantage of the laws and legal protections that allow open, free societies to operate. The need, therefore, of closely integrated international partnerships to detect and defeat terrorist activities against democracies is of vital importance, he said. (See [related article](#).)

More than 200 FBI agents worked with their British counterparts in the lead-up to the arrest of more than two-dozen suspects since August 10 in the plot to detonate liquid explosive on board U.S.-bound airliners, and several U.S. agents remain actively engaged in the ongoing investigation.

“The level of cooperation between the United States and our foreign counterparts is outstanding and is truly the untold story of the war on terror,” Gonzales said. (See [related article](#).)

## PREVENTION STRATEGY BUILT ON FOUR PILLARS

The department’s strategy of prevention, he said, is built on four pillars. The first is to conduct intensive, targeted national security investigations using every tool available under U.S. law to prevent terrorism.

Since the September 11, 2001, attacks on America, Gonzales said, the United States has utilized long-standing laws, like the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, to monitor suspected terrorists, and new laws, such as the Patriot Act, to increase coordination among U.S. national, state and local law enforcement and intelligence agencies, allowing them to share information more effectively and to stop terrorist attacks before they occur. (See [related article](#).)

The FBI also has undertaken a massive reorganization to confront the terrorist threat, he said, establishing the Directorate of Intelligence, hiring more officers, and implementing new training programs to help its agents spot potential terrorist activities. Analysts, linguists and surveillance specialists are formed into special intelligence groups operating at all 56 FBI field offices across the United States. These groups are also networked into 103 joint terrorism task forces, which work with state and local police departments to watch for potential terrorists.

“Like tiny but important pieces of a complicated puzzle, we can now take the most innocuous, seemingly unrelated pieces of information and connect the dots of a complex terrorist plot,” Gonzales said.

Because both domestic and foreign partnerships are essential to defeating terrorist networks, building cooperation is the second key component of the U.S. counterterrorism strategy. The London incident demonstrated the value of prosecuting attorneys coming together to train, exchange intelligence and share information, he said. (See [related article](#).)

The third pillar, he said, is to arrest and prosecute terrorist suspects, which requires a complex balance between allowing investigators to gather sufficient evidence without allowing the suspect’s to execute their planned attack.

While no two cases are the same, Gonzales emphasized that all investigations adhere strictly to U.S. civil liberties guarantees and the rule of law. “[W]e are fighting terrorists according to our constitution,” he said.

The fourth pillar of the department’s prevention strategy, the attorney general concluded, is an effort to counter radicalization.

While the international community significantly has weakened al-Qaida by destroying its training camps, freezing its assets and bringing its leaders to justice, the terrorists have turned to the Internet, where as many as 6,000 Web sites distribute propaganda and encourage individuals to join together to plan their own “homegrown” terrorist attacks. Others seeking to incite violence have infiltrated mosques, community centers and prisons to identify potential new recruits, Gonzales said.

The U.S. is working with its friends and allies to “develop the tools we need to investigate [terrorists’] actions and intentions with the help of our partners, and prosecute those who travel down the road of radicalization.”

With the fifth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks approaching, the recent terror plot was “a chilling reminder of the threats that continue to exist,” Gonzales said.

“[F]or those of us in government whose job it is to protect our country from terrorism, every day is September 12th.” (See [related e-Journal](#).)

A [transcript](#) of the attorney general’s speech is available on the Department of Justice Web site.

For more information, see [International Security](#) and [Response to Terrorism](#).

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

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