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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 53

11 September 2006 CABLE Gram™

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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We search the topics and Websites that you request, so it is important for you to provide feedback. We are in our infancy and the CABLE Gram will be as useful as you help make it. Please let us know the topics and keywords that will assist you in your

professional endeavors. Send all comments and suggestions to zhi@cablegram.org – please type CABLE Gram in the subject line.

FEDERAL

1. Panel gets qualified assurances on disaster preparedness (By Chris Strohm, CongressDaily, 8 Sep 2006)

Homeland Security officials assured members of Congress Thursday that their department is ready for the current hurricane season but added that more needs to be done to prepare for other disasters, such as earthquakes, and to improve the ability of emergency responders to communicate with each other. "I'm very comfortable where we sit going into the hurricane season," Adm. Thad Allen, the Coast Guard commandant, told the Senate Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee during a hearing. Federal Emergency Management Agency Director R. David Paulison said his agency has "improved in every area and capability" since Hurricane Katrina last year. He said FEMA has pre-positioned supplies and pre-assigned missions to other federal agencies, has contracts ready to go in the event of another hurricane disaster and has the ability to track supplies using the global positioning system.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34951&dcn=e_gvet

2. Panel examines high-risk technology projects (By Daniel Pulliam, and Winter Casey of National Journal's Technology Daily, 8 Sep 2006)

Despite misgivings about releasing the data, the White House Office of Management and Budget will provide a list of the government's high-risk information technology projects to Congress next week, an OMB administrator said during a hearing Thursday. Each quarter, agencies evaluate and report to OMB on the performance of high-risk projects, or those requiring "special attention from the highest level of agency management and oversight authorities," said Karen Evans, the office's e-government and IT administrator. However, she told the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security that some projects with significant cost overruns are not on the list. OMB must evaluate major IT investments under a 1996 law that requires agencies to develop clear strategies for such expenditures. A 2002 e-government law and a 2004 IT management framework published by the Government Accountability Office provide further guidance.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34952&dcn=e_gvet

3. Protectors of Puget Sound - Elite Coast Guard team is on the front lines of homeland security (Seattle Post-Intelligencer, 8 Sep 2006)

The numbers on the blue-and-white flag just inside the door of the Marine Safety and Security Team headquarters at Seattle's Pier 36 tell the tale: 91101. The "01" heralds its status as the first Coast Guard port-security special missions unit. The "911" notes the event that led to the unit's creation. Five years after the terrorist attacks on New York, in

Pennsylvania and on the Pentagon, the elite team - well-armed in both weapons and intelligence - shadows Washington's ferries and cargo ships as they ply the waters of Puget Sound. There are now 13 similar teams nationwide charged with enforcing marine security zones, a visible symbol of the Coast Guard's rapidly evolving mission and swelling budget. Thwarting terrorists is now a top priority for an agency that once was focused on keeping boaters safe and netting the occasional drug runner. Today, joining the Coast Guard means being on the front lines of homeland defense and the war on terrorism - even a possible tour of duty in the Persian Gulf.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/284341_coasties08.html

4. Feds propose \$2,000 fee increase for many hazmat carriers (eTrucker, 5 Sep 2006)

The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is accepting comment on its plan to raise fees for many hazmat carriers and eliminate the option of expedited telephone registration. For fleets that don't qualify as a small business or as a not-for-profit organization, the agency proposes to increase the fee from \$975 to \$1,975, with an additional \$25 administrative fee for registration year 2007-2008. The fee would increase again, to \$2,975 plus the \$25 administration fee, beginning in registration year 2008-2009. In 2000, to meet a congressional funding mandate, the agency expanded the registrant base and adopted a two-tier fee schedule. The registration fee was set at \$275 for small businesses and \$1,975 for everyone else, with a \$25 processing fee in all cases.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.etrucker.com/apps/news/article.asp?id=55280>

5. Identity Theft Assistance Center Reports Victim Data Provided to Law Enforcement Has Resulted In Arrests (PRNewswire, 6 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON - The Identity Theft Assistance Center (ITAC) reported today it is expanding its partnership with law enforcement and that landmark agreements signed with federal law enforcement agencies over the past two years are resulting in the arrest and prosecution of identity theft criminals. "To fight identity theft, law enforcement, business and consumers must work together," said ITAC Executive Director Anne Wallace. "The information that ITAC collects when helping victims of identity theft is helping law enforcement find and punish the perpetrators. Our law enforcement partners tell us that ITAC data gives investigators a 360 degree perspective on these crimes, increasing the likelihood of arrests and the speed at which arrests are made." Since the ITAC victim assistance center opened two years ago, ITAC has signed data sharing agreements with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the Federal Trade Commission through its Consumer Sentinel database, which is used by more than 1000 law enforcement agencies around the country. "Over the past year, we've loaded information about 9,000 ITAC cases into our Financial Crime Database, which is used by postal inspectors all over the country," said Lee Heath, Chief Postal Inspector for the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. "ITAC data has helped us locate, and in some cases arrest, suspects in more than a dozen cases."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J1E013DBD>

6. Experts: U.S. Likely to Be Hit Again (AP, 10 Sep 2006)

The threat of terrorism against the United States remains chillingly lethal five years after 9/11, and officials predict another massive attack is not a matter of if _ but when. Despite a government overhaul and more than \$250 billion spent to bolster security on airlines, at borders and in seaports, few doubt al-Qaida's intent to strike the U.S. again. That the nation hasn't been hit since Sept. 11, 2001, may say as much about terrorists' patience as it does about steps taken to stop them. "I know of nobody in the intelligence field who doesn't believe there will be another attack," said Thomas Kean, former New Jersey governor and Republican chair of the 9/11 Commission that investigated the government's security missteps leading up to the 2001 hijackings. "There's going to be another attack," Kean said. "They just can't tell you when."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=906657>

7. Targets for Terrorists: Post-9/11 Aviation Security (Eben Kaplan, Assistant Editor, Council on Foreign Relations, 7 Sep 2006)

Terrorists were targeting airliners with their attacks long before the 9/11 hijackings and the subsequent launch of the U.S. "war on terror." Despite heightened security measures, airliners remain an attractive target for terrorists, as evidenced by the revelation in August 2006 of a plot to simultaneously down as many as ten of them over the Atlantic Ocean. In order to counter the persistent and ever-changing threat of terrorism, experts say officials need to do more to ensure the safety of air travel.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cfr.org/publication/11397/>

8. Judge won't force drugs on accused spy (AP, 10 Sep 2006)

NEW YORK - A judge ruled that the government cannot force a defendant in an Iraq spy case to take medication to make her competent to stand trial, a severe setback to prosecutors in a case filled with intrigue. Susan Lindauer is accused of conspiring to act as a spy for the Iraqi Intelligence Service and engaging in banned financial transactions with Saddam Hussein 's government. The judge on Wednesday rejected the government's request that it be permitted to administer drugs to try to make her competent. Mukasey also questioned the strength of the case against Susan Lindauer. Prosecutors accuse Lindauer of meeting in 1999 and 2001 with Iraqi spy agency officers, accepting an unspecified task and about \$10,000 and delivering a letter to a U.S. government official claiming Iraqi contacts and trying to influence U.S. foreign policy.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.onelocalnews.com/duntonsprings/ViewArticle.aspx?id=4824&source=2>

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

9. AZ: Be prepared for unexpected, security experts urge Valley businesses (The Republic, 10 Sep 2006)

Arizona businesses are unlikely to be victims of natural disasters, or even of terrorist attacks like those five years ago. But Valley security experts say being prepared for the

unexpected is essential. "Most businesses that lose data or systems will go out of business after three days," said Steven Fuller, president of Scottsdale-based Buyers First Home Inspections. "The cost (of backing up data) is inconsequential compared to the cost of losing your business." Fuller had an emergency plan in place before he started his business 18 months ago providing home buyers and sellers detailed property reports. He also keeps a copy of production equipment at a second location. There are all kinds of potential disasters that business owners should prepare for, such as outbreaks of illness, loss of power, a fire, computer viruses or international travel.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azcentral.com/business/articles/0910biz-abg-disaster0910.html>

10. CA: Counterterrorism work keeps local FBI office busy (Daily News, 8 Sep 2006)

Crew members notice something suspicious on a routine flight to Los Angeles International Airport. A string of blasting caps is found in the water off an Orange County pier. A tipster says a suicide bomber may be targeting a Hollywood landmark. Hundreds of such leads with terrorist overtones are vetted each month by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's threat squad, the region's first line of defense against a terrorist attack. In one of the most complex anti-terrorism systems in the nation, the FBI's Los Angeles office - in conjunction with dozens of local law enforcement partners - is charged with protecting 18 million residents in seven counties, from San Luis Obispo to Orange. And it has become one of the country's busiest FBI field offices.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_4310218

11. CA: LAPD investigating 16 USC identity theft crimes (Daily Trojan, 7 Sep 2006)

If you think you're the only one making purchases with your USC Credit Union checking account, think again. The Los Angeles Police Department is investigating 16 identity theft crimes between Aug. 4 and Sept. 5 using student, faculty and staff accounts. The crimes include unauthorized ATM withdrawals, fraudulent Internet purchases and the opening of unauthorized credit card accounts, according to incident reports filed with the Department of Public Safety. Capt. Gloria Graham, DPS captain of operations, declined to comment on the thefts because the LAPD investigation is ongoing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M6F015DBD>

12. CT: Identity theft is rampant in Ridgefield (The Ridgefield Press, 6 Sep 2006)

It's complex, tough-to-fight, and it's rampant in Ridgefield. Identity theft has become the fastest-growing crime in town, Ridgefield Police Captain Stephen Brown said last week. "Over the last three years it's increased," he said. "Identity theft represents the greatest rise in complaints we've seen." Identity theft is no longer about simply stealing credit cards, he said, although that happens. More dangerous are sophisticated criminals whose victims may remain unsuspecting for months or even years. Once thieves get hold of a victim's personal identifying information, they can wreak credit havoc with it. If they readdress the credit card bills to a fake address, the victim doesn't even know he has been victimized.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.acorn-online.com/news/publish/article_8982.shtml

13. FL: More than \$400 million has been spent making Broward safer since 2001 attacks (South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 9 Sep 2006)

A security force of almost 1,000 protects Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. A 14-foot concrete wall surrounds Port Everglades. Local firefighters are equipped with special suits to protect them from hazardous material. In the five years since terrorists attacked the United States and awoke the nation to its vulnerabilities, more than \$400 million has been poured into improving security across Broward County. The massive undertaking is more than local officials have spent building new libraries or preserving green space. Much of the focus has been on the airport, used by 22 million passengers a year, and the seaport, home to busy cargo and cruise operations and source of South Florida's fuel supplies. But even small cities have invested in protecting their buildings and ensuring they can respond to any crisis.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?G50132DBD>

14. FL: Miami Airport Trains Workers in Security (AP, 07 Sep 2006)

Officer Ana Paz slowly scanned the airport terminal, studying faces, luggage and movements, her right hand fixed on the semiautomatic rifle strapped to her chest. She spotted someone suspicious-looking. The man looked angry, she thought. And he probably was. He was waiting for his wife to get out of the restroom at Miami International Airport. Authorities at about a dozen airports around the country are using "behavior pattern recognition" _ monitoring passengers' actions and expressions in hopes of spotting terrorists.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=905427>

15. Guam: Homeland security holds exercise (Pacific Daily News , 9 Sep 2006)

If you drove by the police chief's office in Tiyan yesterday afternoon and saw flashing lights, uniformed fire and police personnel and heard sirens blaring - there was no need to be alarmed. The activities were all part of a Guam Homeland Security training session that had Guam emergency responders play out a full-scale bomb threat scenario. The exercise was part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan that the local agency is required to complete prior to Sept. 30 as part of its 2006 grant requirements.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?N1AF25CBD>

16. IL: Local police first line of defense for terrorism (Pioneer Local, 7 Sep 2006)

As insiders, both Cmdr. Jim Jobe, of the Norridge Police Department, and Police Chief Marty Podosek, of the Harwood Heights Police Department, say they're better prepared to deal with emergencies such as terrorist attacks than they were before Sept. 11, 2001. "We're safer since Sept. 11," Jobe said. "A lot safer." "I believe we're safer and smarter since Sept. 11," he said, adding, "but we can't afford to get lazy or complacent when it

comes to ongoing threats that still exist in the world." After the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, local police departments found there was no such thing as business as usual. "The events of Sept. 11 changed our whole conception of law enforcement in the United States," said Podosek. "For the first time, we've been given the responsibility of becoming the front-line warriors when it comes to homeland security and possible terrorist attacks against this country. We have been given the grave responsibility of being the eyes and ears for our federal and state agencies that once had the sole responsibility of investigating such matters."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H1BF32CBD>

17. IL: National Guard faces equipment problems (AP, 8 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON - Five years after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that struck the East Coast, the Illinois National Guard does not have all the equipment it deems necessary to rapidly respond to a disaster at home. Far from it. Called to duty by President George W. Bush to help fight the global war against terrorism, Illinois guardsmen have left more than \$40 million of equipment in war-torn Iraq. Even equipment that was still working after heavy use was left behind for replacement units. The rest - ranging from worn out or wiped out trucks and Humvees to night vision devices and radios - decay in the desert.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.belleville.com/mld/belleville/news/state/15472564.htm>

18. MD: Hunt for terrorists with missiles near airports (Washington Post, 09 Sep 2006)

Police officer Steven Benner was on patrol in northern Anne Arundel County, driving his unmarked sport-utility vehicle through parking lots, climbing onto rooftops and peering down access roads that wind through wooded areas. Suddenly, a jetliner screamed a few hundred feet overhead. That Southwest Airlines jet - and the many other low-flying airliners here - was the reason he was combing the area. Benner, an officer with the Maryland Transportation Authority Police, was looking for threats from shoulder-fired missiles around Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14724119/>

19. MI: Man Arrested in Airport Knife Scare (AP, 10 Sep 2006)

A man with a one-way ticket to Yemen attempted to board a plane with a knife hidden in a book, authorities said. Mohammed Ghanem, 21, of Hamtramck, was jailed Saturday on \$500,000 after being arraigned on a charge of possessing a weapon in the sterile area of an airport. Ghanem was arrested Thursday at Detroit Metropolitan Airport after Transportation Security Administration officers detected the knife "artfully concealed" in the book, airport spokesman Michael Conway said. Someone had carved out the inside of the book and placed the knife inside it, said Ghanem's attorney, Nabih Ayad. "He said he didn't know where the knife came from," Ayad told the Detroit Free Press. If convicted, he faces up to 10 years in prison.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=907489>

20. MT: Events prompt rewrite of city, county emergency plan (Independent Record, 10 Sep 2006)

Helena and Lewis and Clark County have had an Emergency Operations Plan for almost two decades, but the document didn't include information on terrorist attacks or weapons of mass destruction. The Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C., changed that. In 2003, the city and county used federal grant funds to hire former U.S. Army counterintelligence agent Brett Lloyd to do the most comprehensive rewrite to the operations plan in a decade. As part of his project, Lloyd reworked an older hazardous materials section and combined it with new sections he wrote on responding to terrorist attacks. The new plan, titled "Hazardous Materials/Terrorism Incident Response Plan," reviews critical infrastructure and possible targets, outlines roles and responsibilities of emergency responders and agencies, and provides symptom lists to help personnel evaluate whether a hazardous material spill or terrorist incident has occurred.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.helenair.com/articles/2006/09/10/helena/f01091006_03.txt

21. NE: Health and Human Services receives \$3,067,393 (Southwest Nebraska News, 8 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel (R-NE) announced today that the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has received a \$3,067,393 grant. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The funds will be used for a Bioterrorism-Hospital Preparedness program. "This is good news for Nebraska. It is vital that Nebraska's medical personnel are prepared to meet the challenges of a public health crisis, especially the threat of bioterrorism. This grant will provide the resources necessary to prepare Nebraska's medical personnel," Hagel said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.swnebr.net/newspaper/cgi-bin/articles/articlearchiver.pl?159049>

22. NJ: Share data, N.J. security chief urges (AP, 08 Sep 2006)

New Jersey officials are set to open an intelligence center this fall that would put under one roof homeland security information accessible to all levels of government, the state's homeland security chief told members of Congress yesterday. But Richard Cañas said there is a missing piece that only the federal government can provide: a national center to gather all information from local homeland security agencies. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security needs to provide a better way to gather intelligence and information from states that can be easily analyzed and shared, Cañas said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P2CF23CBD>

23. NJ: TSA lifts burden on screeners in Newark (Star-Ledger Staff, 7 Sep 2006)

After working mandatory overtime for weeks, federal security screeners at Newark Liberty International Airport will return to standard work hours on Sunday, the first time since British authorities uncovered an alleged plot to blow up airliners using liquid explosives. Ann Davis, a U.S. Transportation Security Administration spokeswoman,

yesterday said the move was possible since overall air travel at the airport has dropped from peak summer levels and passengers have become more accustomed to new carry-on rules.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H2DF63CBD>

24. NY: Police terror experts: New York City remains a ripe target (AP, 7 Sep 2006)

NEW YORK - Five years after the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center, Islamic extremists - including members of Hezbollah - still view the city as a prime target for another terrorist strike, police officials warned Thursday. The threat "is a permanent condition, and in all likelihood will worsen," the New York Police Department's top counterterrorism official, Richard Falkenrath, told an audience of private security executives. "It's a very sobering conclusion and I don't reach it at all happily, but I do think it is true," he said. The NYPD summoned the executives to offer the terrorism threat assessment and to outline security measures for the upcoming United Nations General Assembly.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bostonherald.com/national/view.bg?articleid=156393>

25. SC: to receive \$17.4M to help deal with bioterrorism threat (The Post and Courier, 8 Sep 2006)

South Carolina's public health agency will get \$17.4 million in federal money to bolster the state's ability to respond to a bioterrorism attack or other emergencies. The money, part of a \$1.2 billion funding package from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, was announced Thursday by the offices of U.S. Sens. Lindsey Graham and Jim DeMint. South Carolina's share of the money is to be distributed to the Department of Health and Environmental Control and its eight regional offices, including one representing Charleston, Dorchester and Berkeley counties. Locally, the money will help hospitals, public health officials and emergency responders plan for terrorism incidents, natural disasters and disease outbreaks.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L61132DBD>

KEY PEOPLE

26. DHS science and technology chief pledges to bolster staff (GovExec.com, 8 Sep 2006)

The new chief of science and technology at the Homeland Security Department told lawmakers on Thursday that he is taking steps to address staffing issues within his directorate. These include recruiting officials from the private sector to fill job openings, said Jay Cohen, DHS' undersecretary for science and technology, at a House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science and Technology hearing. The hearing marked Cohen's first appearance before the subcommittee following his swearing-in less than a month ago. Members made clear their dissatisfaction with staffing woes and a lack of transparency surrounding research spending at the DHS directorate.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34943&dcn=e_gvet

27. FL: From 'war room' to the front lines (Orlando Sentinel, 8 Sep 2006)

Security chief Lee Kair will put ideas into action when he meets with TSA officers. New Orlando Federal Security Director Lee Kair is beginning a rollout of policy changes that he says will help improve security at Orlando International and Orlando Sanford International airports. Charged with overseeing more than 1,000 security officers for the U.S. Transportation Security Administration who work on the front line of defense against aviation terror, Kair is focused on boosting morale, giving officers more career opportunities and adding more layers of security such as a bomb-appraisal officer.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?N1EF62CBD>

28. NY: Senator says homeland security is not succeeding (Press Republica, 6 Sep 2006)

LAKE PLACID - With the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks approaching, Sen. Charles Schumer gave the federal government a C-minus on homeland security. The senator's report card, which he released Wednesday, was highly critical of the government's efforts to bolster security in the years following the attacks, though he did praise the recent decision to abandon plans for a permanent border checkpoint on the Northway. Schumer gave the government Fs for failing to failing improve rail and mass transit security, provide bomb-detection devices and dole out first-responder grants. The closest thing to a gold star was the B-plus he gave to nuclear plant safety.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L2FF42CBD>

GANG ACTIVITY

29. CA: Rialto police gang raids net 23 (Daily Bulletin, 9 Sep 2006)

RIALTO - Thirteen households were the recipients of an unwanted wake-up call Friday morning. At 6 a.m., officers from the Rialto Police Department and about a dozen other law enforcement agencies raided 13 locations in Rialto and Fontana in search of residents with suspected gang ties. Police arrested 23 suspects on a range of charges including armed robbery, probation and parole violations, possession of stolen guns, marijuana possession and possession of other dangerous weapons. "We're not going to tolerate any gangs and the crimes that they commit," said Rialto Police Lt. Randy DeAnda, who oversees the Rialto Police Department's Multiple Enforcement Team, which targets gang activity and narcotics crimes.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.dailybulletin.com/news/ci_4310417

30. CA: Proposed Gang Injunction Ignites Courtroom Confrontation (KFSN-TV, 7 Sep 2006)

The Fresno County District Attorney's office wants a judge to grant an injunction prohibiting members of two gangs from getting together inside the city limits of Orange Cove. Thursday afternoon was the first time a Fresno County prosecutor stood before a

judge to make his case for the gang injunction. The judge will not decide whether to grant a preliminary injunction until later on this month. But things already got heated up, when several men named as validated gang members came to the courthouse saying they are being unfairly targeted by authorities. The men say they are no longer involved in gangs.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=local&id=4540588>

31. MD: Gang Figures Rising In Md. (Washington Post, 7 Sep 2006)

Crime committed by gang members in Montgomery County has increased notably in recent months, and the number of identified members has also risen, an assistant police chief said yesterday during a congressional hearing. Montgomery Assistant Chief John King told the House Committee on Government Reform that detectives had identified 930 gang members as of May, a 30 percent increase from November. Crime attributed to gang members increased 30 percent in those six months, contributing to surges in burglaries, robberies and vandalism, King said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L19132DBD>

32. MD: Former WMDT Reporter Starts Work As Gang Reistance Coordinator (WMDT, 6 Sep 2006)

Former WMDT reporter Carolyn Suma, who now goes by her married last name, Widdowson, is working to keep gangs out of Wicomico County. She began work this week as a gang resistance coordinator in the State's Attorney's Office. Widdowson says she will be working with police officers and task forces across the area to make the Wicomico County's streets safer. "One of my first jobs is going to be to sit down and talk with them to find out what the situation is in their community. Find out what's happening and also raise awareness in the community, let people know this is going on and something needs to be done about it," Widdowson said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wmdt.com/topstory/displaystory.asp?id=2923>

33. MA: 18 members of Latin Kings gang indicted (WPRI, 6 Sep 2006)

BOSTON Eighteen members and associates of the Chelsea chapter of the Latin Kings gang were indicted today on state and federal drug and firearm charges. The Latin Kings have been involved in a gang war in Chelsea with other gangs over the past few years, resulting in numerous shootings, stabbings and other violence. Twelve members of the gang, including some in leadership positions, were indicted on federal drug charges.

Another six were indicted on state drug and firearm charges.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.eyewitnessnewstv.com/Global/story.asp?S=5373306&nav=F2DO>

34. TN: Getting a Grip on Gang Violence (Eyewitness News, 7 Sep 2006)

The Shelby County District Attorney says the rising crime rate in Memphis and Shelby County is directly related to a huge increase in gang activity. But where do citizens turn for help fighting gang violence since the break-up of the Metro Gang Unit last year? The Shelby County Sheriff's Department still operates a gang unit, although it's much smaller

these days. Only 8 full-time officers are assigned to the unit. "I think we make a difference," says Detective Anthony Buckner. "And we have good cooperation with the Memphis Police Department. We share information with them. They share information with us." Detective Buckner says there are 5,000 gang members in Shelby County, and they're aggressively recruiting young people.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J3A155DBD>

35. M-13 Gang Trying to Blend In - Gang reportedly sending members to college (KRGVTV, 8 Sep 2006)

BROWNSVILLE - A university study reports the MS-13 gang is becoming more sophisticated. University of Texas Brownsville professor Susan Ritter conducted a nine-month study of the gang. It turned up some surprising new information about a notorious gang. The study shows they're becoming much more organized than first thought and much of it begins in the Valley. Ritter says, "The ones that we do have here are going to keep a very low profile. They're here to provide a service for others who are simply moving through." Their major operations are now reportedly set up in Houston, Washington D.C., Boston, New York, Detroit and Los Angeles.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.newschannel5.tv/2006/9/8/28428/-Report--M-13-Gang-Trying-to-Blend-In->

36. Italy: FBI tries to decipher "code" in Mafia boss's bible (Reuters, 7 Sep 2006)

ROME - Code-breaking experts at the FBI are helping Italian investigators to determine whether a Bible found on the Mafia's "boss of bosses" when he was arrested in Sicily in April hides a secret code, sources said on Thursday. Bernardo Provenzano, the Mafia boss who spent 43 years on the run, had underlined passages in his personal copy of the Bible. Investigators have said these could hold the key to other encoded messages found at his rural hideout. "The FBI is working with the (Italian) state police to determine whether there are any hidden messages in the Bible," said a U.S. government official, who asked not to be identified. It will be scrutinised by code experts at the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Cryptanalysis and Racketeering Records Unit at the FBI Laboratory in Quantico, Virginia, the official said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J1B131DBD>

NARCO TRAFFICKING

37. AZ: Drug dog's discovery: 56 pounds of cocaine (Arizona Daily Star, 8 Sep 2006)

Border Patrol agents seized 56 pounds of cocaine Thursday during a routine vehicle inspection near Arivaca, an official said Friday. The cocaine has an estimated street value of more than \$1.5 million. The discovery was made at a rest stop on Interstate 19, said Agent Gustavo Soto, a spokesman for the agency's Tucson sector. Border Patrol agents were assisting the Arizona Department of Transportation with commercial vehicle inspections when a 2001 Dodge Neon drove into one of the inspection lanes. A Border Patrol drug-detecting dog alerted its handler to the presence of drugs in the car, Soto said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azstarnet.com/sn/hourlyupdate/145811.php>

38. GA: DEA - Estimated \$10-million in cocaine seized (WTVM, 6 Sep 2006)

GAINESVILLE, Ga. Authorities say they seized almost ten (m) million dollars worth of cocaine in a raid on a warehouse in Gainesville. Five people were arrested when agents moved in yesterday after getting a tip that a shipment was arriving on a tractor-trailer. Ruth Porter-Whipple of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Atlanta says the warehouse at the Oakbrook Industrial Park had been under surveillance based on suspicions aroused by activity around the building.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.wtvm.com/Global/story.asp?S=5375205&nav=menu91_3

39. NJ: Cops seize \$5M of cocaine (Herald News, 9 Sep 2006)

PATERSON - Ninety-six kilograms of cocaine with an estimated value of \$5 million were seized at an apartment on Twelfth Avenue that was used as a transfer station for drugs shipped from Mexico to distribution sites in North Jersey, officials said Friday. Meanwhile, two New York City men were arrested on Broadway - a few blocks from the house involved in Thursday's raid - in the culmination of a monthlong investigation led by the Passaic County Sheriff's Department and the Paterson Police Department. Officials also seized three cars, including one with Ohio license plates, with hidden compartments containing \$360,000 in cash.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P22132DBD>

40. TX: Border patrol seizes cocaine worth \$2.2 million (Odessa American, 8 Sep 2006)

Border patrol agents from the Sierra Blanca Station uncovered 70.84 pounds of cocaine in a vehicle stopped for an immigration inspection around 10 p.m. Thursday. U.S. Customs and Border Protection report that a California man driving a 1994 Mercedes Benz SL500 was stopped at the Interstate 10 checkpoint and his demeanor prompted agents to begin a closer inspection. The Texas National Guardsman assisted the agents who discovered a hidden compartment in the vehicle containing the cocaine with a street value of \$2,266,880. The driver, car and drugs were turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.oaoa.com/news/nw090606f.htm>

41. Mexico arrests major suspect linked to Colombian cocaine cartel, sends to U.S. (AP, 8 Sep 2006)

MEXICO CITY Mexican authorities have arrested a reputed major figure in one of Colombia's largest and most feared drug cartels responsible for nearly half of the cocaine smuggled into the United States, officials said Friday. Jaime Maya Duran was arrested Wednesday by agents of Mexico's attorney general's office in Mexico City and flown immediately to New York, where he is under indictment on drug trafficking and money laundering charges, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, said in a news release. Maya Duran's arrest "shows the determination of U.S. and Mexican law

enforcement authorities to pursue the most dangerous criminals, including those who thought they were untouchable," U.S. Ambassador in Mexico Tony Garza said in a statement.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/09/08/america/LA_GEN_Mexico_Drug_Arrest.php

42. Chief of Guatemalan Anti-Narcotics Unit Guilty of Cocaine Trafficking (The Sierra Times, Jim Kouri, 10 Sep 2006)

Two senior Guatemalan anti-narcotics law enforcement officers pleaded guilty on Friday in the US District Court in Washington, DC to a charge of conspiracy to manufacture and distribute cocaine, according to a statement by Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher. Adan Castillo Aguilar and Jorge Aguilar Garcia, pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiracy to manufacture and distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine that was to be exported into the United States. The defendants were senior officials of the Servicio de Analisis e Informacion Anti-narcoticos (SAIA), the lead anti-narcotics police agency in Guatemala. Castillo Aguilar was the chief of that agency and Aguilar Garcia was his second in command.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.sierratimes.com/06/09/10/152_163_101_8_61794.htm

43. Uruguay arrests 27 in record cocaine bust (AP, 6 Sep 2006)

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay - Police arrested 27 people suspected of trafficking drugs to Europe in the South American country's largest cocaine seizure ever, authorities said Wednesday. The yearlong investigation was capped by 15 raids that netted some 350 kilograms (770 pounds) of cocaine and resulted in the arrest of Uruguayan, Paraguayan, Colombian and Bolivian nationals, said Interior Ministry Undersecretary Juan Faroppa. Faroppa estimated the drugs would have fetched some US\$9 million (€7 million) on the streets in Europe.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/09/06/america/LA_GEN_Uruguay_Drug_Bust.php

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

44. Former TSA workers' data exposed (USA Today, 6 Sep 2006)

The Transportation Security Administration is warning 1,195 of its former employees that a contractor may have mailed their Social Security numbers and birth dates to the wrong addresses and left them open to identity fraud. The error, acknowledged in letters the TSA mailed in late August to each of the former employees, is the latest in a series of data breaches that may have exposed workers in both private and government jobs to identity thieves.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J20012DBD>

45. U.S. CEOs lax on computer security (UPI, 5 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON - Many U.S. corporate leaders still do not take computer security seriously, Computerworld reported Monday. The report suggested that the issue was one

of the most important yet least understood security issues facing prominent American leaders of major corporations. It said that many chief executive officers in the United States still believed that the threat of economic espionage or trade secret theft was a minor concern for their companies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20060905-124140-4784r>

46. U.S. Based Banks Complacency Toward Identity Theft Solutions Causing a National Security Threat (PRNewswire, 6 Sep 2006)

The single largest national security threat is a terrorist attack on our banking system. An attack aimed simultaneously at millions of username and passwords within banking would shut down our banking system. This would ripple out into the free world almost instantly shutting down banks worldwide. Credit/debit cards, checks, calls to the bank, would not work for at least a matter of days causing tremendous hardship and ripple effect from no gas to "I simply have to take this baby food." Anarchy would reign and people would fight and people would die. After that millions would not trust banks or our banking system and we would revert to a cash based society causing irreparable harm to our entire way of life. People would revert to keeping cash under the mattress and we would be back in the great depression era of 1929. "Simply put, easy to accomplish with the current single factor security (user name and password) at banks online for any terrorist organization, even from a cave in Pakistan." says Paul Gerstenberger, a cyber security expert with Authenticol Systems of Boulder, Colorado. Banks in this country and even our government are not taking this threat seriously enough and the wheels of bureaucracy are putting us at an extreme level of vulnerability.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2006/9/prweb432939.htm>

47. Researchers Challenge DOS Attack Data (Dark Reading, Part of TechWeb, 6 Sep 2006)

Conventional wisdom about the sources and causes of denial-of-service (DOS) attacks - and the best methods for preventing them - could be completely wrong, a group of researchers said this week. Researchers at the University of Michigan, Carnegie Mellon University, and AT&T Labs-Research said they have completed a study that debunks the widely-held belief that DOS attack traffic is usually generated by a large number of attack sources disguised by spoofed IP addresses. In its study, the group found that 70 percent of DOS attacks are generated by less than 50 sources, and a relatively small number of attack sources account for nearly 72 percent of total attack volume. IP spoofing, long thought to be the most popular vector for launching a DOS attack, was found in only a few instances, the researchers said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Z21035DBD>

TECHNOLOGY

48. Airport screening technology developed (Business Week, 8 Sep 2006)

At the airport check-in of tomorrow, "getting through security" should take 30 seconds. Passengers breeze through a series of scanners that probe for explosives, weapons, even drugs. Shoes stay on feet, laptops in cases. A machine confirms that a bottle of wine is wine, and not a disguised cocktail of bomb ingredients. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks prompted a clampdown at the nation's airports and a new era of aggravation at security checkpoints. They also accelerated a race to develop better screening technology, research that has advanced with each thwarted terrorism plot. Some of these devices are already snooping your luggage as part of a 2002 congressional mandate that all checked baggage be scrutinized for explosives, but technical glitches and funding problems stand in the way of other technologies. Key questions remain: Are these ready to handle thousands of passengers per hour, and their belongings?

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/tech/D8K0TV3G0.htm>

RESOURCES

49. FBI analyzes Hezbollah's terror threat - Iran-sponsored group 'very well-funded, very well-trained' (Inside Bay Area, 9 Sep 2006)

When Hamas and Hezbollah kidnapped Israeli soldiers this summer and the Israeli military lashed back in Gaza and Lebanon, the FBI quietly stepped up its scrutiny of the two groups, particularly Hezbollah, which law-enforcement authorities say raises money by selling bootleg tobacco and counterfeit goods in California. The anniversary of the Sept. 11 hijackings has Americans thinking about al-Qaida and Osama bin Laden. But the pressure on al-Qaida's top leadership and increasing U.S. confrontation with Iran has many counterterrorism experts looking at the Iranian-sponsored Hezbollah as an equal, if not greater, threat. Hezbollah's access to Iranian money, arms and military training has created the kind of guerrilla force that can fight the Israeli military to a stalemate, and it has more of a presence inside the United States than al-Qaida, although neither Hezbollah nor Hamas ever has attacked inside the U.S.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.insidebayarea.com/dailyreview/localnews/ci_4311996

50. DHS Lists "Sensitive Security Information" Titles (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation of American Scientists, www.fas.org)

In an attempt to limit unnecessary controls on unclassified information, Congress last year required the Department of Homeland Security to identify by title all DHS documents that were marked as "Sensitive Security Information" (SSI) that may not be publicly disclosed. In response, the first DHS report to Congress listed approximately one thousand titles that had been marked as SSI between October 1 and December 31, 2005. A copy of that report has just been released with minor redactions in response to a Freedom of Information Act request from the Federation of American Scientists. See "Department of Homeland Security Documents Designated in Their Entirety as Sensitive Security Information (SSI), October 1 Thru December 31, 2005" (3.5 MB PDF):

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/othergov/dhs/ssi-titles.pdf>

OPPORTUNITIES

51. Nuclear agency goes on hiring spree (GovExec.com, 11 Sep 2006)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is on track to add almost half again as many employees to its staff to keep up with an increasing demand for nuclear power. The 3,000-person NRC aims to have 4,000 employees by early 2008. To account for attrition, the agency is signing up about 1,300 new employees. "I've hired 400 of them so far," said James McDermott, chief human capital officer for NRC. "That's unheard of in a small agency like this. That's why our senior managers are so focused on human capital issues." CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=34956&dcn=e_gvet

FULL REPORTS

52. 9/11 Fact Sheet from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS, 8 Sep 2006)

PROTECTING THE HOMELAND POST SEPTEMBER 11: An Overview of How the Department of Homeland Security Is Leading the National Effort for a Safer America

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has taken significant action to improve the nation's security since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. By improving security measures for the nation's aviation system, implementing measures designed to protect our critical infrastructure, using biometrics to establish and verify identity, strengthening border security, reflecting the lessons-learned from Hurricane Katrina, increasing the nation's preparedness for a disaster, and enhancing information sharing among federal, state, local, and international partners, DHS is leading the effort to protect the homeland.

SECURING THE NATION'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has established a comprehensive, layered security approach to protecting our nation's aviation system – including hardened cockpit doors, additional Federal Air Marshals, explosive screening devices and 100% screening for all passengers and checked baggage by a professionally trained workforce – enabling our response to be as flexible, dynamic, adaptable and unpredictable as the enemy we face. Further research is ongoing and new technologies are being developed, tested and deployed to improve aviation, port, rail, bus and mass transit security while focusing resources where the risk is greatest.

· Training Personnel in Advanced Methods to Detect Explosives and Deter Other Serious Threats: DHS provides more than 43,000 Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) at over 700 airport security checkpoints and 7,000 baggage screening areas. With nearly 38,000 TSO's trained in the detection of explosive materials and devices, 425 Explosives Detection Canine Teams active in 80 airports nationwide (representing a 70% increase since 2003), Visible Intermodal Protection Response (VIPR) teams deployed to supplement existing security resources, and thousands of Federal Air Marshals protecting U.S. flights, these layers of security are helping to ensure the safety of the traveling public and prevent any terrorist or criminal activity.

- Deploying New Technologies to Improve the Screening of Passengers and Baggage: Approximately 4,000 metal and x-ray detectors are present at 440 airports within the United States to check passengers for harmful materials or weapons that may pose a threat to aviation security. Since 9/11, TSA has also deployed 1,200 Explosive Trace Detector machines to passenger screening checkpoints.
- 100% of Checked Baggage Now Undergoes Screening: On 9/11, five percent of checked baggage was screened. Whether checked or taken as a carry-on, TSA now screens 100% of all checked baggage utilizing enhanced technology that quickly determines whether a bag contains a potential threat to aviation security.
- Securing Air Cargo with a Layered Security Solution: While promoting the free flow of commerce, DHS has employed a risk-management approach designed to strengthen security across the spectrum of cargo, conveyances and people utilizing different detection methods including enhanced technology, human inspection, and canine teams. TSA has enhanced shipper and supply chain security by pinpointing cargo deemed an elevated risk through prescreening, targeted inspections, and stronger security measures at cargo facilities. DHS is now conducting Air Cargo Explosives Detection Pilot Programs to test ways additional cargo can be screened prior to loading on passenger aircraft.
- Background Checks for Truckers Hauling HAZMAT: DHS has checked more than 2.7 million truckers against terrorist watch lists and more than 200,000 persons receiving new licenses or renewing their old commercial driver's licenses. As of August 2006, drivers licensed in Canada or Mexico must also undergo a background check as part of CBP's Free and Secure Trade (FAST) program before transporting placarded amounts of hazardous materials in the U.S.

PROTECTING THE NATION'S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Since 9/11, DHS has taken significant steps to protect our nation's critical infrastructure and key resources, including our nation's ports, rail, and mass transit systems. DHS has increased screening of inbound cargo, forged new international partnerships to create global standards in supply chain security, and awarded hundreds of millions of dollars to enhance security and protect our nation's infrastructure systems.

- Strengthening Port Security: The U.S. Coast Guard created port security teams to assess over 60 strategic port locations. USCG also completed special assessments on several classes of vessels including ferries, LNG vessels, certain dangerous cargo barges and single skin tank vessels. The Coast Guard also developed the port security risk assessment tool to assess and establish risk-based profiles. With the President's FY 2007 Budget request, total DHS funding for port security activities since FY 2004 total nearly \$10 billion.

- Developing the Transportation Worker Identification Credential: DHS is elevating security at our nation's ports by requiring a biometric identification card or Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) and background check for those individuals requiring daily access to these critical facilities. Extensive background checks have already been completed on over 400,000 port workers. The credential includes a more extensive background check and ensures port workers and vessel operators are fully vetted before they are able to access secure areas.

- Over \$1.1 Billion Has Been Provided to Protect Critical Infrastructure: Through programs designated for infrastructure protection, DHS has provided more than \$1.1 billion to date to strengthen the nation's ability to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies that could impact this country's critical infrastructure. By the end of September, DHS will award approximately \$373 million more funding for these purposes. These grants are distributed through seven specific programs that allocate funding toward transit security (rail, bus, and ferry systems); buffer zone protection surrounding chemical facilities, nuclear and electric power plants, dams, stadiums, arenas and other high-risk areas; intercity passenger rail operations; our nation's highways; and critical port infrastructure.

- Infrastructure Protection Grants: These grants consider threat, vulnerability and consequences, and recognize the unique characteristics of our nation's seaports, transit systems and other critical infrastructure assets. The FY 06 programs included: \$9.5 million for the Intercity Bus Security Grant Program; \$4.8 million for the Trucking Security Program; over \$168 million for the Port Security Grant Program; over \$7.2 million for the Intercity Passenger Rail Security Grant Program; nearly \$136 million for the Transit Security Grant Program; nearly \$48 million for the Buffer Zone Protection Program; and \$25 million for the Chemical Sector Buffer Zone Protection Program.

- Nearly \$110 Million Awarded To Major Rail Systems in 2006: This year, the eight largest mass transit rail systems in the country have been awarded \$103 million in security grant assistance. Eligibility announcements for further awards have been made and final grant awards to these systems will be made later this year, bringing the total to roughly \$110 million. To date, DHS has provided nearly \$375 Million to the Nation's Mass Transit Systems.

- Rail Security Pilots: Through S&T's Rail Security Pilot (RSP), DHS field tested the effectiveness of explosives detection techniques and imaging technologies in partnership with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. In April 2006, TSA conducted the Mobile Security Checkpoint (MSC) pilot with MARC and Maryland Transit Administration to screen commuter rail passengers and their bags for explosive material. The MSC pilot was conducted to determine the operational feasibility, effectiveness, and the suitability in a transportation environment of commercially available screening technology installed in a mobile container. The results from this pilot will be used to determine if such a container could be used for screening in the transportation environment, or possibly in others.

· Providing a Coordinated Approach to Critical Infrastructure Protection: Through the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP), DHS has established a comprehensive risk management framework that clearly defines the roles and responsibilities among government, private industry, nongovernmental agencies and other key partners in protecting our nation's critical infrastructure, enhancing additional security measures and focusing resources according to risk. Seventeen Sector-Specific Plans that complement the NIPP and detail the risk management framework will be released in December 2006. These plans will address unique characteristics and risk landscapes, will be developed in collaboration with sector specific security partners, and include such areas as agriculture and food; energy; public health and healthcare; banking and finance; drinking waters and water treatment systems; information technology; telecommunications; postal and shipping; transportation systems including mass transit, aviation, maritime, ground or surface, and rail and pipeline systems; chemical; commercial facilities; government facilities; emergency services; dams; nuclear reactors, materials and waste; the defense industrial base; and national monuments and icons.

STRENGTHENING BORDER SECURITY

On September 11, 2001, the nation lacked a comprehensive multi-agency strategy for securing our borders and enforcing our immigration laws. DHS has taken significant steps to prevent terrorist and criminal activity from entering the U.S. by unifying personnel and law enforcement responsibilities at our nation's borders, ports of entry and between ports of entry; strengthening our deployment of personnel, infrastructure and technology to detect and prevent certain threats; and establishing uniform standards for document authentication and verification that enable government officials to make real-time decisions regarding the admissibility of those attempting to travel or enter the U.S.

· Screening Visitors to the U.S. Against Watch Lists and Criminal Records: The US-VISIT program uses advanced biometric technologies to screen visitors to the U.S. against various watch lists to prevent terrorists from entering the country. To date, US-VISIT has been deployed to 116 airports, 15 seaports, and 154 land ports of entry and processed more than 61 million people applying for admission at U.S. ports of entry. Nearly 1,200 criminals and immigration violators have been intercepted at entry into the United States based on the biometric information alone. DHS and CBP also deployed the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System to all 142 Border Patrol stations and more than 150 ports of entry. This technology has enabled CBP to identify hundreds of homicide, kidnapping, robbery and sexual assault suspects as well as thousands of other wanted individuals. Moreover, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service conducts approximately 135,000 background checks on applicants seeking immigration benefits each day.

· The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS): SEVIS was implemented in January of 2003, and is a web-based system that provides real-time, up-to-date information on F, M and J visa holders that can be accessed electronically. It is an effective tool used by law enforcement to ensure that foreign students and exchange visitors in the United States are complying with the terms of their immigration status and

are not a threat to national security. Prior to SEVIS, there was a decentralized, manual, paper-driven process that monitored foreign students attending more than 70,000 schools. Today, SEVIS enables over 8,600 schools and 1,400 exchange visitor programs in the United States to host over 800,000 foreign students and exchange visitors.

- **Increasing Manpower and Resources:** Since President Bush took office, the number of Border Patrol agents has increased from 9,000 to more than 12,000, and will double to 18,000 by the end of 2008. CBP officers at our U.S. ports of entry have increased 50 percent and funding for border security efforts has risen by 66%. The number of ICE investigators has grown 25%, funding for interior enforcement has risen 42%, and the number of ICE fugitive operations teams has grown from 17 to 45 nationwide. Since March 2003, these teams have arrested more than 52,000 illegal aliens, including roughly 22,000 of who had criminal records.

- **Increased Resources toward Securing the Border:** In 2005, DHS established the Secure Border Initiative (SBI) to strengthen security along our nation's borders through increased manpower and resources, new technologies and enhanced immigration enforcement. Under SBI, DHS has expanded the practice of expedited removal which substantially reduces the amount of time an illegal migrant spends in processing before being returned to their home country; established fencing and barriers to improve security along the border; and will harness cutting-edge technology through SBInet - an integrated effort combining the latest detection technology with new infrastructure investments that will greatly increase our border enforcement capabilities.

- **Ending "Catch-and-Release:"** DHS has effectively ended the practice of "catch-and-release" along the southern and northern borders for other-than-Mexican populations by enforcing a catch-and-remove policy. The President's FY '07 budget proposes increasing the number of beds in detention facilities to 27,500. In addition, \$257 million has been approved which will add 4,000 beds this year; while 500 beds were added in Willacy County, Texas in less than 45 days. With expanded bed space and decreased processing times under the Secure Border Initiative, DHS is strictly enforcing this "catch and remove" policy enabling us to detain all non-Mexican illegal immigrants apprehended along the southern and northern border until they can be returned to their home countries.

- **Deploying the National Guard in Operation Jump Start:** Since May 2006, the Administration has leveraged the support of up to 6,000 National Guard to help keep the border safe while additional Border Patrol agents and new technologies are brought online. Their support has freed up more than 380 Border Patrol agents for frontline duty and assisted with more than 6,700 illegal alien apprehensions and the seizure of approximately 34,000 pounds of marijuana and 1,700 pounds of cocaine since the start of the Operation.

- **ICE Worksite Enforcement:** In FY 2004, Immigration and Customs Enforcement initiated 460 investigations; there were 79 indictments and 87 convictions. These numbers increased in FY 2005 to 502 investigations, 186 indictments and 160

convictions, and in FY 2006 (as of August 22) there were 1097 investigations, 184 indictments and 177 convictions.

- **Development of e-Passports:** In coordination with the State Department, DHS is providing technological solutions, such as the e-passport, to improve the travel process and enhance fraud detection. E-Passports effectively eliminate passport fraud and serve as an example of international cooperation to ensure safe travel.

INCREASING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

On September 11, 2001, the nation lacked an integrated incident management system, had done little catastrophic planning, and had no means by which relief supplies could be tracked in the event of a disaster. DHS has dramatically strengthened the nation's preparedness for a disaster by awarding billions in grant dollars; building new relief supply systems; assessing disaster plans for states, territories, and major urban areas; and creating a national plan for incident response.

- **\$18 Billion Has Been Awarded to State and Local Governments to Increase Their Level of Preparedness:** Since the creation of the department, approximately \$18 billion has been awarded to state and local governments for equipment, training, exercises and various other measures designed to increase the level of security in communities across the nation.

- **Strengthening Interoperability Communications and Capabilities:** Since 2003, DHS has provided over \$2.1 billion to states for interoperable communications equipment, planning, training, and exercises. Through the Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program, DHS has provided onsite assistance to improve interoperable capabilities in more than 75 states, urban areas, and metropolitan regions. Through the Department's RapidCom initiative, first responders and incident commanders in ten high-threat urban areas now have the ability to communicate with each other and their respective command centers in the event of a large emergency incident like a terrorist attack. These cities include: Boston, Chicago, Houston, Jersey City, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. To further assess the capacity for communications interoperability among law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical service first responders in all 50 States and DC, DHS initiated the National Interoperability Baseline Survey which will result in a public score card that will identify gaps and help us to determine improvements needed to be made in the near term. A final report for the Baseline Survey is planned for October 2006.

- **National Response Coordination Center:** With the new state-of-the-art National Response Coordination Center (NRCC), the federal government can proactively and quickly provide federal support to states and communities to ensure critical life-saving assistance and incident containment capabilities are in place to respond quickly and efficiently to catastrophic incidents. The NRCC at FEMA coordinates the national-level response to any natural or manmade incidents. The NRCC monitors potential or developing incidents and supports the efforts of regional and field components, including

coordinating the preparedness of national-level emergency response teams and resources; in coordination with Regional Response Coordination Centers, initiating mission assignments or reimbursable agreements to activate other federal departments and agencies; and activating and deploying national-level specialized teams. Using advanced technology, the new NRCC brings together teams of emergency response professionals from federal agencies and the private sector.

- **Increasing Situational Awareness through the Common Operating Picture:** Activated in May 2006, the Common Operating Picture (COP) is a display of relevant information that is derived from a Common Operating Database (COD) and shared by several agencies and organizations. The COP/COD system is a situational awareness tool that can be modified for the strategic, operational and tactical levels and is active in the National Operations Center (NOC). As part of an incrementally phased development effort, the DHS COP/COD system has focused on the 2006 hurricane season and has been implemented in selected DHS offices and component and inter-agency operation centers. Subsequently, the COP/COD system will be implemented nationwide for all Homeland Security partners, for all hazards, and for all threats.

- **DHS Reviewed 131 State and Local Emergency Plans:** By reviewing state and local disaster plans, collocating decision-makers, and pre-designating federal leadership, DHS is improving coordination across all levels of government. Through the National Plan Review, DHS completed visits to 131 sites (50 states, 6 territories, and 75 major urban areas) and reviewed the disaster and evacuation plans for each. These reviews will allow DHS, states, and urban areas to identify deficiencies and improve catastrophic planning.

- **Established The National Response Plan (NRP):** The NRP established a unified, all-discipline and all-hazards approach to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents through the alignment of Federal coordination structures, capabilities and resources. The NRP and its coordinating structures and protocols provide the mechanisms for the coordination and implementation of a wide variety of incident management and emergency assistance activities.

- **Ready Campaign:** Launched in February 2003, Ready is a national public service advertising campaign produced by DHS and the Advertising Council to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. The campaign, which includes information for individuals, families, Spanish speakers and businesses, distributes its messages through public service advertisements, brochures, web sites, a toll-free phone line and partnerships with a wide variety of public and private sector organizations. The Ad Council has declared Ready one of the most successful campaigns in its more than 60-year history. Ready has generated more than \$568 million in donated media support; more than 1.9 billion hits and 23.8 million unique visitors to www.ready.gov; and more than 7.4 million Ready materials have been requested or downloaded from the Web site. Additionally, Citizen Corps, a component of USA Freedom Corps and coordinated by DHS, was created to help coordinate volunteer activities that will make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. There are

currently over 2,000 Citizen Corps Councils reaching 72% of the population and operating in all 50 states and 6 U.S. territories. At the state and local levels, grants totaling more than \$107 million help implement the Citizen Corps programs.

IMPROVING INFORMATION SHARING

The events of September 11, 2001 exposed the importance of information sharing across all levels of government and throughout the international community. DHS has established new mechanisms to collect and share vital information across various sectors, and has provided support to local communities.

- **Federal Support for State Fusion Centers:** DHS is supporting state and local authorities by providing analysts and direct support to established Fusions Centers which are working toward the common goal of blending relevant law enforcement and intelligence information analysis and coordinating security measures to reduce threats in their communities. To date, DHS has provided more than \$380 million to state and local governments in support of these centers and will continue to deploy tailored, multi-disciplinary teams of intelligence and operational professionals to Fusion Centers nationwide with plans to have personnel at all of the major centers by the end of fiscal year 2008. The Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center is another tool the department is utilizing to improve information sharing between the federal government and state and local partners by developing three new product lines tailored to meet the intelligence needs of the private sector and state and local governments, including sector-specific documents, unclassified communication with the private sector and quarterly suspicious activity reporting analyses.

- **Improving Information Sharing to Prevent Terrorists From Boarding Planes:** In order to help identify potential high-risk travelers earlier, increase the security of international flights to and from the U.S. and alleviate turn-backs and diversions of aircraft, DHS has a proposal to implement the pre-departure transmission of Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) data which provides officers with pre-arrival and departure manifest data on all passengers and crew members. Also, the Office of Screening Coordination oversees the integration of the department's terrorist and immigration-related screening efforts, creates unified screening standards and policies, and develops a single redress process for travelers.

- **Increased Information Flow among DHS and Federal, State, and Local Partners:** DHS communicates in real-time to its partners by utilizing the internet-based Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). System participants include governors, mayors, Homeland Security Advisors, state National Guard offices, Emergency Operations Centers, First Responders and Public Safety departments, and other key homeland security partners.

PREVENTING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

The threat of weapons of mass destruction is one of the foremost priorities of the Department. Countering the threat of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons in the hands of terrorist organizations is the gravest danger facing America.

- Assessing 100% of Cargo Entering the Country: The National Targeting Center (NTC) provides tactical targeting and analytical research support for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) anti-terrorism efforts and currently assesses information relating to all U.S. bound cargo in order to identify, inspect and reject potentially high-risk cargo before it can enter the United States. Experts in passenger and cargo targeting at the NTC operate around the clock using tools like the Automated Targeting System (ATS) to determine any potential national security risk before entering the U.S.

- Scanning 98% of Cargo in our Seaports by the End of 2008: Prior to 9/11, approximately 2 percent of cargo was screened, and virtually none was screened for radiation. There are now approximately 267 Radiation Portal Monitors (RPMs) currently deployed at our nation's seaports and 14,000 handheld detection devices are currently in use. By the end of 2006, 75 percent of seaborne cargo will be scanned by RPM. By the end of 2008, that number will increase to 98 percent.

- Establishing the “Global Standard” for Cargo and Port Security: DHS established the Container Security Initiative (CSI) post 9/11 to inspect high risk containers before they are loaded on board vessels destined for the U.S. By the end of this year, more than 50 ports accounting for over 90 percent of maritime containerized cargo shipped to the U.S. will be part of the initiative. DHS also partners with more than 5,800 global businesses through the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) in which business take necessary steps to improve supply chain security and agree to pre-screen all cargo before entering the U.S.

- Domestic Nuclear Detection Office Progress: Post 9/11, the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office has completed the first ever global nuclear architecture, announced contract awards for new radiation detection technologies; completed performance testing for mobile, handheld, backpack, and portable radiation detectors (PRDs) detection systems; and issued broad agency announcements for transformational research and development.

- Next-Generation Radiation Portal Monitors: DHS has awarded contracts for the production of next-generation RPMs. A limited number of units will be tested at ports of entry over the next six to nine months. The Advanced Spectroscopic Portal (ASP) Program will be initiated with a purchase of 80 Standard Cargo portals. From this total, each of the three companies awarded contracts for the program will supply portals for testing, spiral development, primary and secondary screening at operational land crossings and seaports.

- Training for Law Enforcement and First Responders: DNDO has worked with the Office of Grants and Training (G&T) and the Counter Terrorism Operation Support Team to develop and deliver preventive radiological/nuclear detection training to over

300 law enforcement and first responders at three training sites in New York, South Carolina and Pennsylvania.

INCREASING DEFENSES AGAINST BIOLOGICAL THREATS

Since 9/11, DHS has significantly strengthened the nation's defenses against biological threats by developing and deploying a network of biological sensors; establishing new facilities to monitor, test and detect potential biological threats; and utilizing new risk assessment tools to inform investments and potential threats.

- **Detecting and Preventing Biological Attacks:** DHS, in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has deployed the first ever bioaerosol monitoring system to more than 30 major metropolitan areas in order to provide early warning of an attack and enable quick and accurate response. The BioWatch system is currently undergoing expansion in the top threat cities to enable detection of smaller amounts of bio-agents, better define the affected areas in the case of a release, and provide increased coverage of critical facilities such as transportation networks.

- **Established National Biosurveillance Integration System:** A 24/7 operation, the National Biosurveillance Integration System is designed to provide early recognition of biohazards of potential national significance and to form a common operating picture through all source reporting relating to all types of public health threats.

- **National BioForensics Analysis Center (NBFAC):** DHS, in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), established the National BioForensics Analysis Center (NBFAC) in 2004 at Ft. Detrick, MD. Utilizing state-of-the-art detection technologies combined with rigorous chain-of-control procedures to analyze samples in secure, contamination free, bio-containment laboratories, this center serves as the lead federal facility to conduct and facilitate forensic analysis and interpretation of materials recovered following a biological attack.

- **Creating New Centers of Excellence:** DHS, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has established two agricultural Centers of Excellence. The National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense (FAZD) Center of Excellence is actively engaged in research efforts to protect pre-harvest agricultural targets from deliberate or intentional incursions of pathogenic microorganisms responsible for such diseases as Foot and Mouth Disease, Rift Valley Fever, brucellosis, and avian influenza. The National Center for Food Protection and Defense (NCFPD) Center of Excellence is dedicated to developing technologies and understanding the complexities of safeguarding our Nation's food supply chain.

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