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CABLE Gram Volume 3 Issue 55

18 September 2006 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

In the Current Update:

FEDERAL

1. U.S. faces home-grown attack threat, experts say (Reuters, 11 Sep 2006)
2. Markey: report shows massive security loopholes (Woburn Daily Times Chronicle, 11 Sep 2006)
3. U.S. to enhance detection of nuclear, radiological threats (China People's Daily Online, 13 Sep 2006)
4. JTF-NORTH - Agency focuses fight against smuggling, terrorism (El Paso Times, 13 Sep 2006)
5. Spy Agencies Outsourcing to Fill Key Jobs (Los Angeles Times, 17 Sep 2006)
6. Key senators battle over emergency communications (By David Hatch, National Journal's Technology Daily, 14 Sep 2006)
7. House Republicans offer border fence measure (CongressDaily, 14 Sep 2006)
8. National Reporting System to Safeguard Against Pandemics and Bioterrorism (Southwest Nebraska News, 15 Sep 2006)
9. U.S. expands warning to cover all fresh spinach (Reuters, 16 Sep 2006)
10. Water groups slam US security measures (Water Tech Online, 13 Sep 2006)
11. Newly Banned Items Often Fly Past Airport Screeners (Washington Post, 13 Sep 2006)
12. Explosives Screening For All Air Cargo (Aero-News.Net, 15 Sep 2006)

13. Bioterrorism measure unnecessary, Canada says - Already able to deal with American concerns (The Star, 14 Sep 2006)

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

14. CA: California expands epidemic lab (UPI, 14 Sep 2006)

15. CT: Danbury disaster drill - State tests new radio communications system (News Times, 14 Sep 2006)

16. CT: Town developing pandemic flu and bioterrorism strategy (Wilton Villager, 17 Sep 2006)

17. FL: Orlando man smuggled illegal immigrants by saying they were circus workers (AP, 13 Sep 2006)

18. MA: Heightened security at bus, train stops (Boston Globe, 14 Sep 2006)

19. MT: TSA Drops Plans for Screeners at 7 Montana Airports (Independent Record, 16 Sep 2006)

20. NM: 27 Charged in Migrant Smuggling Ring (Free New Mexican, 15 Sep 2006)

21. NY: Bar Owner Admits Harboring Illegal Aliens In Smuggling Ring (WNBC.com, 12 Sep 2006)

22. TX: More Than 100 DPS Troopers Graduate (CBS42, 15 Sep 2006)

23. TX: Judge adds extra prison time in 19 smuggling deaths (KTEN, 12 Sep 2006)

24. TX: Investigators Say Anthrax Hoax Came From Lubbock (KLBK13TV, 12 Sep 2006)

25. UT: National Guard to deploy to Iraq (UPI, 12 Sep 2006)

KEY PEOPLE

26. DHS appoints WMD intelligence chief (UPI, 15 Sep 2006)

27. DiZinno will lead the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory (FBI, 12 Sep 2006)

GANG ACTIVITY

28. CA: 11 L.A. '18th Street' Gang Members Face RICO Charges for Aiding Mexican Mafia (FOX News, 13 Sep 2006)

29. CA/CO: Federal Inmate Accused of Directing L.A. Drug Sales - Inmate controlled sales in L.A. neighborhoods using hidden messages, U.S. prosecutors say (Los Angeles Times, 13 Sep 2006)

30. NJ: Raids net 22 suspected gang members - Officials say members of the violent Crips gang were targeted (WABC, 13 Sep 2006)

31. NM: Summit to bring groups together to help find meth, gang solutions (The Daily Times, 17 Sep 2006)

32. NY: Westchester unveils anti-gang program (The Journal News, 13 Sep 2006)

33. NY: Closing Arguments in Gotti's 3rd Trial (AP, 15 Sep 2006)

34. WA: Seattle Crime Gang Busted (KIROTV, 14 Sep 2006)

35. WI: Task force targets organized crime, gangs (JSOnline, 15 Sep 2006)

36. Canada: B.C. wants to ban gang colours (CanWest News Service, 17 Sep 2006)

37. Panama, Base of Mafia Meetings (Prensa Latina, 17 Sep 2006)

38. Crime in Central America: The culture of death - Inspired by America's Latino communities, members of El Salvador's bloodthirsty gangs express their tribal loyalty

with tattoos - even though they may mark them out for an early death (Independent, UK, 17 Sep 2006)

39. Colombian gangsters face sex ban (BBC, 13 Sep 2006)

NARCO TRAFFICKING

40. AZ: Agents seize more than 100 pounds of cocaine this week (KVOA, 16 Sep 2006)

41. CA: Driver busted for cocaine, stopped for not wearing seatbelt (North County Times wire services, 16 Sep 2006)

42. NY: Police Find NYC Crew Hid Drugs in Toys (AP, 15 Sep 2006)

43. TX: Texas Troopers Seize \$1.1 Million In Cocaine (KWTX, 14 Sep 2006)

44. Canada: Cocaine Pipeline Gets Clogged - Police credit inter-province intel with aiding bust (Calgary Sun, 16 Sep 2006)

45. Canada: RCMP Smashes Cocaine Smuggling Ring at Toronto International Airport (CNW, 12 Sep 2006)

46. Canada: Court upholds prison sentences in global smuggling scheme (Times Colonist, 12 Sep 2006)

47. Mexico extradites major drug gang brother to U.S. (Reuters, 16 Sep 2006)

48. Gunmen Kill Police Chief in Mexico (AP, 13 Sep 2006)

49. FARC: We don't own any coca fields (ANNCOL, 17 Sep 2006)

50. Trinidad & Tobago: T&T named as heroin hotspot (Trinidad Express, 17 Sep 2006)

51. Peru, U.S. Plan New Anti - Narcotics Push (Reuters, 13 Sep 2006)

52. Kenya becomes cocaine distribution hub (AP, 11 Sep 2006)

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

53. DHS releases Cyber Storm report (InfoWorld, 13 Sep 2006)

54. Cyber Crime Becoming More Organized (Reuters, 15 Sep 2006)

55. Six Tips to Protect Your Online Search Privacy (Electronic Frontier Foundation)

TECHNOLOGY

56. Spy Databases Join Forces (FreeMarketNews.com, 12 Sep 2006)

RESOURCES

57. Norfolk Southern Whistle-Stop Tour Delivers Hazardous Materials Safety Training to Maryland, Pennsylvania and Ohio (PR Newswire, 12 Sep 2006)

58. "Federal and State Quarantine and Isolation Authority," Congressional Research Service report updated August 16, 2006

OPPORTUNITIES

59. Master Cattlemen's Program to be held Tim Smith (The Lincoln Journal, 14 Sep 2006)

60. Event to focus on safe food (The Kansas City Star, 14 Sep 2006)

61. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking - Department Of Homeland Security

FULL REPORTS

62. Best Practices: Current Technology for Ensuring 'Safefreight' and 'Safemail' (Tom Bauer, Supply & Demand Chain Executive, August/September 2006]

63. U.S. Treasury Officials Report on Blocking Terrorists' Money - Officials urge other countries' finance ministries to take on security role (Dept of State, 12 Sep 2006)

Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor, On location in Wisconsin

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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FEDERAL

1. U.S. faces home-grown attack threat, experts say (Reuters, 11 Sep 2006)

Five years after the 9/11 attacks, New York's top counterterrorism official said the United States is facing the threat of home-grown terror. The New York Police Department's counter-terrorism chief, Richard Falkenrath, told Reuters the home-grown threat of attack was a serious problem and that while there had not been any successful strikes there had been thwarted local attempts. "We're very worried about the home-grown threat, it's very difficult to counter, it has very little signature, it's very hard to detect. And it's the most prevalent form of terrorism we have seen since 9/11," he said in a phone interview. He said a thwarted 2004 plot to bomb the Herald Square subway station in Manhattan had been "genuinely home-grown."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?S5F3319CD>

2. Markey: report shows massive security loopholes (Woburn Daily Times Chronicle, 11 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON, DC - Rep. Edward J. Markey D-MA, a senior member of the House Homeland Security Committee, released a report entitled "To Secure America: The State of Homeland Security and Implications for Massachusetts," on the fifth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Markey, the only member of the Massachusetts

Congressional Delegation serving on the Homeland Security Committee, has been a longtime critic of the Bush administration failures to expend the resources and stand up to corporate interests to better secure the United States in six sectors. Markey's report examines the state of aviation, chemical, nuclear, LNG, public transportation, and hazardous materials security, and includes a focus on how these security weaknesses affect Massachusetts. Markey said, "The reality is that five years after two planes left Logan Airport and headed toward the World Trade Center, there are still many gaping loopholes that could be exploited by terrorists. The Bush Administration has relied on a faith-based homeland security policy: It prays that Al Qaeda won't take advantage of the glaring vulnerabilities created by Republicans' failure to spend the money and implement the regulations needed in a post-9/11 world."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.woburnonline.com/frontpage/september06/91106-3.html>

3. U.S. to enhance detection of nuclear, radiological threats (China People's Daily Online, 13 Sep 2006)

The U.S. government will step up detection of nuclear and radiological threats by scanning major roads, waterways and underground tunnels of major cities by the end of 2008, a senior official said Tuesday. Secretary of Homeland Defense Michael Chertoff revealed the plan in a testimony before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, saying the threat of weapons of mass destruction such as a nuclear bomb remains the government's greatest fear. Chertoff said the scanning program -- called "Securing the Cities"-- will at least encompass New York and two other major cities but offered no other details. He also said hundreds of radiation monitors are to be deployed at most seaports and will be used to check 80 percent of cargo containers by the end of 2006. The monitors of this kind will also be deployed at all seaports and major land border crossings by the end of 2007, Chertoff added.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://english.people.com.cn/200609/13/eng20060913_302324.html

4. JTF-NORTH - Agency focuses fight against smuggling, terrorism (El Paso Times, 13 Sep 2006)

Whether intercepting shark boats running drugs through the South Padre Islands, detecting border-crossing tunnels in California, or scanning the mountainous coast of Washington state for low-flying aircraft that could be used to import weapons of mass destruction, JTF-North is finding ways to keep bad people from doing bad things. Although Joint Task Force-North was formed in 1989 to fight drug and immigrant smuggling on the Southwest border, the agency's mission was expanded after the 2001 terror attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. In 2004, JTF-North was given the additional mission of fighting terrorism, and its area of operation was expanded to include the entire continental United States - air, land and sea. The rules were also changed, expanding JTF-North's ability to analyze intelligence it collects on various missions - potentially connecting the dots on other national security threats - and share that information with the appropriate agencies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.elpasotimes.com/news/ci_4327255

5. Spy Agencies Outsourcing to Fill Key Jobs (Los Angeles Times, 17 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON - At the National Counterterrorism Center - the agency created two years ago to prevent another attack like Sept. 11 - more than half of the employees are not U.S. government analysts or terrorism experts. Instead, they are outside contractors. At CIA headquarters in Langley, Va., senior officials say it is routine for career officers to look around the table during meetings on secret operations and be surrounded by so-called green-badgers - nonagency employees who carry special-colored IDs. Some of the work being outsourced is extremely sensitive. Abraxas Corp., a private company in McLean, Va., founded by a group of CIA veterans, devises "covers," or false identities, for an elite group of overseas case officers, according to current and former U.S. intelligence officials familiar with the arrangement. Contractors also are turning up in increasing numbers in clandestine facilities around the world. At the CIA station in Islamabad, Pakistan, as many as three-quarters of those on hand since the Sept. 11 attacks have been contractors. In Baghdad, site of the agency's largest overseas presence, contractors have at times outnumbered full-time CIA employees, according to officials who have held senior positions in the station.

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<http://makeashorterlink.com/?G42E529CD>

6. Key senators battle over emergency communications (By David Hatch, National Journal's Technology Daily, 14 Sep 2006)

Sens. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, and John McCain, R-Ariz., are engaged in a turf battle over emergency communications amendments that they are seeking to add to a port security measure. Each proposal would reserve \$1 billion for equipment to let emergency responders communicate across jurisdictions, but they vary in how states could use the funds. Some Capitol Hill aides insisted that Stevens offered his version to fend off McCain's as part of an ongoing tit-for-tat between the two. When Stevens took the helm of the Senate Commerce Committee, he eliminated a communications subcommittee that McCain was in line to chair. The two also have sparred on a host of matters, including whether the cable industry should offer per-channel programming. A Stevens spokesman declined to comment.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=35013&dcn=e_gvet

7. House Republicans offer border fence measure (CongressDaily, 14 Sep 2006)

House Republicans introduced Wednesday legislation that would require the Homeland Security Department to install a two-layered reinforced fence along five areas of the Mexican border in an effort to crack down on illegal immigration. The bill, sponsored by Homeland Security Committee Chairman Peter King, R-N.Y., is the first measure of a GOP get-tough border security agenda it believes will resonate with voters before Election Day. A vote is planned for Thursday. The King legislation would rewrite a 1996 federal immigration law that required fencing near the San Diego border to include five specific sites among 700 miles of fencing. Those areas include a 20-mile stretch at Tecate, Calif.; a 15-mile stretch between Calexico, Calif., and Douglas, Ariz.; a 15-mile stretch between Columbus, N.M., and El Paso, Texas; a 10-mile stretch between Del Rio,

Texas, and Eagle Pass, Texas; and a 15-mile stretch between Laredo, Texas, and Brownsville, Texas.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=35011&dcn=e_gvet

8. National Reporting System to Safeguard Against Pandemics and Bioterrorism (Southwest Nebraska News, 15 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) and U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel (R-NE) introduced today in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate the "National Reportable Conditions Act." Emergent conditions are cases or suspected cases of infectious diseases, contaminations and events such as chemical spills, which are of sufficient public health concern to require rapid reporting from state to national health jurisdictions. This legislation would form an advisory board that would create and update a list of emergent conditions and establish standards for reporting. Additionally, an automated federal electronic reporting system would be created to report and analyze emergent conditions. The legislation would enhance inter-agency coordination by certifying a list of reported conditions through the Department of Homeland Security.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.swnebr.net/newspaper/cgi-bin/articles/articlearchiver.pl?159079>

9. U.S. expands warning to cover all fresh spinach (Reuters, 16 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON - Consumers should avoid all fresh spinach, regardless of whether it is pre-packaged, a chief U.S. food safety official warned on Saturday, saying the number of E. coli illnesses had passed 100. "We need to get a clear message to consumers," said Dr. David Acheson, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's director of food safety and security. "Some consumers may not be aware that spinach that may be available to them may have been pre-packaged," he said referring to loose spinach sold in restaurants and supermarkets. While the FDA did not expand the warning beyond fresh spinach, Acheson said the investigation into the cause of the illnesses was continuing and other possible sources had not been excluded. Investigators believe that the spinach was contaminated before it was bagged since more than one bag contained contaminated product, Acheson said on a Saturday evening conference call with reporters.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Y25012ACD>

10. Water groups slam US security measures (Water Tech Online, 13 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON – Several national and state water associations, in a September 12 letter to members of the House and Senate Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittees, have expressed their disapproval of two bills and one provision pertaining to chemical facility security currently under deliberation in Congress. Members of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the American Water Works Association and five other utility associations said in the letter that the proposed legislation "would significantly complicate the goal of protecting public health." The agencies claim the bills hand over authority for regulation of drinking water treatment to the US Department of Homeland Security, which they said "has no expertise in the treatment technologies and requirements necessary to protect public health."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.watertechnonline.com/news.asp?mode=4&N_ID=63651

11. Newly Banned Items Often Fly Past Airport Screeners (Washington Post, 13 Sep 2006)

Wendy Shanker was passing through security at the St. Louis airport Friday when the X-ray machine detected a potential weapon inside her carry-on bag. A screener dug into the satchel and found a pair of scissors that Shanker used for knitting. The scissors' blades were shorter than the 4-inch federal limit so the screener plopped them back into the bag. But he missed something else: Shanker's two-ounce container of Neutrogena hand cream, a substance banned since federal authorities clamped down last month on allowing liquids and gels into airline passenger cabins.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C2E3329CD>

12. Explosives Screening For All Air Cargo (Aero-News.Net, 15 Sep 2006)

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced a new directive requiring explosives screening for all packages checked at airline counters. The announcement came at a news conference held at Boston's Logan International Airport yesterday. The directive is effective immediately and applies to all airlines at all airports. At the conference Chertoff said, "This is yet another way in which we are continuing to constantly raise the level of security for aviation."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Y56062ACD>

13. Bioterrorism measure unnecessary, Canada says - Already able to deal with American concerns (The Star, 14 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON—An American security measure that would make air fares more expensive and threatens backups at the border is unnecessary and could be removed, Canadian Agriculture Minister Chuck Strahl says. Strahl, following a meeting with his American counterpart Mike Johanns, said Ottawa could satisfy Washington's fears about transborder bioterrorism without costing Canadian air travellers and adding another impediment to cross border traffic. The fees, scheduled to be in place by Nov. 24, range from \$5 (U.S.) per air passenger to \$488 per maritime vessel. Truckers would have to pay \$5.25 per border crossing. Strahl told Johanns the fees are particularly difficult to absorb for Canadians because it comes on top of new security measures that will require passports or other secure documents to cross the land border by Jan. 1, 2008.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L10142ACD>

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

14. CA: California expands epidemic lab (UPI, 14 Sep 2006)

LOS ANGELES - California has issued a \$9 million grant to help expand a unique public health lab geared toward tackling bioterrorist attacks and natural epidemics. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger Thursday announced the expansion of the UCLA lab to enable it to

conduct high-speed analysis needed to detect and track outbreaks of diseases such as bird flu and those that might result from a bioterrorism attack. The \$9 million comes from state and Los Angeles-area homeland security funds and augments \$6 million included in this year's Department of Defense allocation bill to launch the project. The money will be used to purchase equipment and expand the lab from 2,000 to 6,000 square feet.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20060914-034252-3723r>

15. CT: Danbury disaster drill - State tests new radio communications system (News Times, 14 Sep 2006)

DANBURY -- At 9 a.m. Sunday, an explosion ripped through the new science building at Western Connecticut State University in Danbury. At virtually the same moment, a truck rolled over on Interstate 84 in Waterbury and began leaking gallons of commercial-grade hydrogen peroxide. In Torrington, there was a sulfuric acid spill at a factory. Within minutes, emergency personnel were en route to all three sites, knowing the crises were a drill. But the first-ever test of a new radio communications system developed as a result of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack fell short of its goal of letting emergency responders know that what initially appeared to be isolated events extended far beyond local borders. The hazardous materials involved in the three incidents were the same components that were crucial to a terrorist plot thwarted by authorities in Great Britain last month.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.newstimeslive.com/news/story.php?id=1014916>

16. CT: Town developing pandemic flu and bioterrorism strategy (Wilton Villager, 17 Sep 2006)

WILTON — Wilton's Health Department has been collaborating both regionally and locally to prepare for a possible future bioterroristic crisis or a pandemic flu outbreak, Health Director Steven Schole said this past week. "It was never a big part of public health, but it is now," he said on Sept. 5. The approach to public health has forever been changed by the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, he said. The events surrounding that day "got everybody thinking" about preparing for the worst, Schole said, such as bioterrorism, which is the intentional use of harmful biological substance or germ to cause widespread illness. On the regional level, response to a possible bioterroristic crisis or the more recent concern of a pandemic flu outbreak is at the beginning stages, he said, with municipal health departments, hospitals and visiting nurse associations meeting on a monthly basis to further discuss and prepare for such episodes. The state region 1 meetings, which are conducted by Connecticut's Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security [DEMHS], started last September, he said, and include representatives from 14 towns from Stratford to Greenwich [DEMHS has separated the state in 5 regions]. The DEMHS meetings have allowed attendees to work on establishing an inter-communication network that would enable everyone to be within a phone call away in case of an outbreak, Schole said, and hash out future strategies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.wiltonvillager.com/wilton_templates/wilton_story/287997101707953.php

17. FL: Orlando man smuggled illegal immigrants by saying they were circus workers (AP, 13 Sep 2006)

ORLANDO · An Orlando man smuggled 872 illegal immigrants into the United States during the past 10 years by using false documents that said they were circus workers, authorities said. Constantin Ciprian Durbalau, 30, a Romanian citizen who has lived in Orlando and Davenport in the past few years, was ordered held without bail Monday on charges of smuggling aliens for financial gain and aiding and abetting forged immigrants documents. He was arrested at Orlando International Airport on Thursday after returning from his country. The impostors from Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine, Russia and other countries paid up to \$4,000 each to be illegally smuggled into the country, federal investigators charged.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?O2FD129CD>

18. MA: Heightened security at bus, train stops (Boston Globe, 14 Sep 2006)

Teams from the Transportation Security Administration are monitoring key bus and rail hubs in Boston to spot suspicious passengers and detect explosives, the first time teams from the agency have been assigned outside airports. TSA workers have been a high-profile presence screening luggage and passengers at the nation's airports since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. This month, TSA and MBTA Transit Police teams, including explosive-sniffing dog units, have been stationed at South Station, the Blue Line's Airport station, and on the Silver Line, which are all key links to Logan International Airport. The team plans to be at Silver Line Way near the World Trade Center this morning and at Airport station this afternoon. The monthlong program, which could become permanent, takes place at a time of high-risk, with the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks and the Muslim celebration of Ramadan.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E42012ACD>

19. MT: TSA Drops Plans for Screeners at 7 Montana Airports (Independent Record, 16 Sep 2006)

WASHINGTON - The Transportation Security Administration has decided that due to its limited budget, federal screeners will not be put to work at the seven Montana airports that still do not screen passengers before boarding planes. Instead, the TSA would have to come up with a security plan for each airport, as outlined in a provision passed by the Senate on Thursday. The agency would have 60 days from the date the measure is signed into law to submit the plans to Congress. The airports are in Glasgow, Glendive, Havre, Lewistown, Miles City, Sidney and Wolf Point. The TSA had been working with Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont., on the possibility of putting federal screeners at those airports, "but the resources just aren't there," said TSA spokeswoman Jennifer Peppin. "Essentially that's kind of what's coming out of this," she said of the Senate measure. "The security plan is another way to establish another more convenient process without actually federalizing the airports with federal screeners."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.helenair.com/articles/2006/09/16/montana/a06091606_01.txt

20. NM: 27 Charged in Migrant Smuggling Ring (Free New Mexican, 15 Sep 2006)

Twenty-seven people have been indicted in an immigrant smuggling operation that reached from South America to Santa Fe and points beyond, according to the U.S. government and a person with knowledge of the case. A federal indictment in U.S. District Court, which was unsealed after a number of the defendants were arrested last week, charges Ofelia Marquez-Chavez and Luis Carlos Fierro and 25 other people of being involved in a network that moved migrants across the Mexican border and into temporary safe houses in New Mexico and other locations before sending them on to cities across the United States. "This is one of the largest organizations we've had the pleasure of indicting in our region," said J. Brandy Gardes, an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Texas in El Paso who is representing the government in the case. Marquez-Chavez and Fierro were network ring leaders, Gardes said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.freewmexican.com/news/49111.html>

21. NY: Bar Owner Admits Harboring Illegal Aliens In Smuggling Ring (WNBC.com, 12 Sep 2006)

A Hudson County bar owner pleaded guilty Tuesday to harboring illegal immigrants for a human smuggling ring that brought young Honduran women into the United States and required them to work off tens of thousands of dollars in smuggling debts. Luisa Medrano, 51, of Cliffside Park, also pleaded guilty to tax evasion. She faces a likely federal prison sentence of between 24 and 30 months when she is sentenced Dec. 26.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wnbc.com/news/9831437/detail.html>

22. TX: More Than 100 DPS Troopers Graduate (CBS42, 15 Sep 2006)

AUSTIN Expect more troopers on the Central Texas highways. More than 100 Department of Public Safety troopers graduated Friday to begin their next adventure. State Representative Jim Pitts of Waxahachie delivered the keynote address. The troopers began their six-month training academy in January. The 111 troopers covered more than 100 subjects, including counterterrorism, first aid and Spanish.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://keyetv.com/topstories/local_story_258174803.html

23. TX: Judge adds extra prison time in 19 smuggling deaths (KTEN, 12 Sep 2006)

HOUSTON A Houston judge has sentenced three people to prison for their roles in the nation's deadliest human smuggling attempt. U-S District Judge Vanessa Gilmore exceeded the maximum recommended prison terms in sentencing two of the defendants. She sentenced Victor Sanchez Rodriguez to 23 years and four months in prison. That's three years and four months longer than the maximum penalty recommended by federal sentencing guidelines. Gilmore explained the extra prison time by citing the horrific nature of the crime, in which 19 illegal immigrants died in 2003 in a truck trailer found abandoned southwest of Houston.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kten.com/Global/story.asp?S=5396648>

24. TX: Investigators Say Anthrax Hoax Came From Lubbock (KLBK13TV, 12 Sep 2006)

A prisoner being held at the Montford Unit in Lubbock is believed to have caused an anthrax scare near Houston. The suspicious white substance was recently identified as sugar, but investigators are still trying to pinpoint which prisoner sent the mail. Investigators know from the return address that the letter did come from the Montford Unit. Although a prisoner's name was on the letter, investigators aren't sure if the prisoner actually sent it, or someone else, within the prison system was trying to get revenge. A sugary substance caused quite a commotion near Houston at the office of State Senator Mike Jackson. Investigators say the prank from a Lubbock prison wasn't a sweet idea. The hoax meant a hazardous materials unit, FBI agents and the League City Police Department converged on the office to make sure everything was okay. The office is back to normal, but the investigation is far from finishing up.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.klbk13.tv/news/default.asp?mode=shownews&id=1769>

25. UT: National Guard to deploy to Iraq (UPI, 12 Sep 2006)

OREM, Utah - Members of the Utah Army National Guard are shortly to be sent to Iraq to help cope with the military's shortage of language specialists. The Daily Herald reported Sept. 11 that after three months of advanced training, U.S. personnel from the Utah Army National Guard's 141st Military Intelligence Battalion, based in Orem, would arrive in Baghdad to assist with linguistics-related military intelligence issues, a specialty of the unit. Utah National Guard spokesman Major Hank McIntire said that 40 soldiers from the 141st had already undergone soldier readiness processing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20060912-113203-7744r>

KEY PEOPLE

26. DHS appoints WMD intelligence chief (UPI, 15 Sep 2006)

A new post at the Department of Homeland Security will get it up to speed with the latest intelligence about terror threats from weapons of mass destruction. Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced this week that Maureen McCarthy, a career government scientific advisor, had been appointed to the new post of senior advisor for weapons of mass destruction, or WMD, intelligence programs within the department's Intelligence and Analysis Directorate. McCarthy "will be responsible for improving the department's capability to acquire timely and actionable strategic intelligence in support of homeland security operations that counter WMD threats," said Chertoff in a statement Wednesday.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20060915-043733-7767r>

27. DiZinno will lead the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory (FBI, 12 Sep 2006)

Washington, D.C. - FBI Director Robert S. Mueller has appointed Joseph A. DiZinno, D.D.S., a 20 year veteran of the FBI, as the new Laboratory Director. Dr. DiZinno will

lead a group of over 600 talented men and women dedicated to performing a wide array of forensic services to the law enforcement community worldwide. He is replacing Dr. Dwight E. Adams, who retired from the FBI on June 30th after 23 years of distinguished service. Dr. DiZinno entered the FBI as a Special Agent in 1986 and served in the Washington Field Office. While assigned to the Washington Field Office, he investigated reactive crimes to include bank robberies, kidnappings and extortions. He became a Supervisory Special Agent in the Laboratory in 1989 and specialized in the examination of hairs and fibers. From 1992 to 1996, Dr. DiZinno participated in mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) research, validation, and implementation studies. In 1996, mtDNA analysis was first applied to forensic casework in the Laboratory. Dr. DiZinno was selected as the Chief of the DNA Analysis Unit II in 1997 which is responsible for conducting mtDNA examinations on evidence consisting primarily of hairs, bones and teeth.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel06/labdirector091206.htm>

GANG ACTIVITY

28. CA: 11 L.A. '18th Street' Gang Members Face RICO Charges for Aiding Mexican Mafia (FOX News, 13 Sep 2006)

LOS ANGELES — Eleven members and associates of a notorious **street gang** have been indicted on federal racketeering charges of using threats and violence to control the drug trade near downtown Los Angeles. The indictment, unsealed Tuesday, accuses the defendants of belonging to two "cliques" of the 18th Street gang that acted at the behest of imprisoned Mexican Mafia member **Ruben Castro**. It's the latest example of prosecutors bringing charges under a statute traditionally used against the Mafia — the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, or **RICO** — to target street gangs.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,213635,00.html>

29. CA/CO: Federal Inmate Accused of Directing L.A. Drug Sales - Inmate controlled sales in L.A. neighborhoods using hidden messages, U.S. prosecutors say (Los Angeles Times, 13 Sep 2006)

Sending hidden messages in letters from his cell at Colorado's "Supermax" prison, a kingpin of the 18th Street gang controlled an elaborate drug operation on the streets west of downtown Los Angeles, federal prosecutors charged Tuesday. The indictment of 18 members of the gang capped a four-year investigation by a task force of Los Angeles Police Department detectives and FBI agents that used wiretaps, undercover surveillance and inside sources. They say its members directed the drug trade in some of the city's most crime-troubled neighborhoods, including the Westlake district, Pico-Union and part of Koreatown.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T27065ACD>

30. NJ: Raids net 22 suspected gang members - Officials say members of the violent Crips gang were targeted (WABC, 13 Sep 2006)

Twenty-two violent gang members were busted during early morning raids throughout Essex County Wednesday morning, according to the FBI. Officials say the top members of the northern New Jersey chapter of the Crips street gang were targeted. The arrests happened in Newark, Irvington and East Orange. The suspects face charges ranging from dealing heroin to selling assault weapons. Additional drug and weapon charges have also been filed. The suspects were taken to FBI headquarters in Newark for processing and are scheduled to appear before a federal magistrate judge this afternoon. The U.S. attorney, Essex County prosecutors, FBI agents and local officials, including Newark Mayor Cory Booker, will then hold a news conference to discuss the arrests.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=local&id=4556619>

31. NM: Summit to bring groups together to help find meth, gang solutions (The Daily Times, 17 Sep 2006)

FARMINGTON — Climbing solo is an activity not recommended by climbing experts. Similarly, the problem of methamphetamine is too grand, too enormous to tackle alone, say San Juan County community leaders. For this reason, officials and community members from all across the board are assembling next week to share ideas on how to best address the problem of methamphetamine use and criminal gang activity in the area. Called the San Juan Safe Communities Initiative Summit (SJCIS), the event will focus on these increasingly problematic activities in the county. On Sept. 20 to 21, community members — including city and government officials, school officials, health organization experts and others — will gather to listen and contribute to a large-scale discussion on combating these serious issues.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.daily-times.com/ci_4328223

32. NY: Westchester unveils anti-gang program (The Journal News, 13 Sep 2006)

Westchester County agencies involved with youth issues are hoping to prevent gang violence through The Power of Peace, a program modeled after a state prison initiative with similar goals. "We have a problem just like everybody else has a problem with violent youth gangs," County Executive Andrew Spano said yesterday in announcing the \$40,000 initiative, which is funded by the county Youth Bureau and The Guidance Center in New Rochelle. The Power of Peace initiative, adapted from a program created at the Green Haven Correctional Facility in Dutchess County to discourage youth gangs, teaches young people to settle disputes and solve problems in nonviolent ways by acting out scenarios that require them to use impulse control, conflict-resolution techniques and resistance to peer pressure.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?N28013ACD>

33. NY: Closing Arguments in Gotti's 3rd Trial (AP, 15 Sep 2006)

John A. Gotti listened intently as his lawyer told a Manhattan jury during closing arguments Friday that the mob scion quit the Gambino crime family because he was disillusioned with the lifestyle and faced jail while watching his father dying behind bars. The second generation mobster, at his third trial in the last year on racketeering charges,

has heard it all before. The government's two previous attempts to jail the one-time Gambino family boss on these charges ended with deadlocked juries. Defense lawyer Charles Carnesi asserted that a star-struck Gotti followed his father into the mob, but soon discovered that organized crime was "a business where people worship money ... full of treachery and deceit."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.forbes.com/business/services/feeds/ap/2006/09/15/ap3021565.html>

34. WA: Seattle Crime Gang Busted (KIROTV, 14 Sep 2006)

SEATTLE - Attorney General Rob McKenna and Seattle Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske announced the conclusion of vast organized crime investigation in Seattle Thursday afternoon. Seattle police charged Liberty Jewelry and Loan owner, 69-year-old Martin D. Levy, Levy's daughter, 38-year-old Leslie Calvo and her husband, 37-year-old Richard Calvo, with a total of 31 counts including trafficking in stolen property, possession of stolen property, solicitation of theft and/or theft, leading organized crime, money laundering and violation of the uniformed controlled substances act.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kirotv.com/news/9852920/detail.html>

35. WI: Task force targets organized crime, gangs (JSOnline, 15 Sep 2006)

Ives Grove - The attack on organized crime and violent gangs got a boost Thursday in Racine County, with the announcement of the formation of a multi-jurisdictional unit that includes the FBI and the U.S. attorney's office. Sheriff Robert Carlson deputized 25 officers from the Racine Police Department and police departments in the villages of Mount Pleasant, Caledonia and Sturtevant. The FBI also gave federal powers to many of the same officers. The district attorney's office also is participating in the effort.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=498041>

36. Canada: B.C. wants to ban gang colours (CanWest News Service, 17 Sep 2006)

The B.C. government wants to ban the wearing of gang emblems, stripes and colours in bars and restaurants. Solicitor-General John Les said in an interview Friday that he is closely watching the outcome of legal challenges to a Manitoba law which imposes such a ban. If the Manitoba legislation stands challenges, Les intends to introduce similar legislation in B.C. "I will employ any tool that is useful," said Les, who finds it infuriating that groups such as the Hells Angels, which have been linked to criminal activity, can publicly flaunt their colours and insignias. The Hells Angels are perhaps most famous for their patch, affixed on jackets and vests, which features a skull with a wing attached.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J3D3239CD>

37. Panama, Base of Mafia Meetings (Prensa Latina, 17 Sep 2006)

Panama - Capos of several nations, especially from Colombia and Mexico, use Panama as the venue for the meetings to discuss their business, El Panama America daily disclosed Sunday. According to the paper, authorities registered at least four mafia

gatherings to prepare the traffic of illegal substances to the US and Europe and of heavy weapons. An officer of the Judicial Technical Police, who worked in various anti-drugs operations as an infiltrated agent for years, told the newspaper that those encounters are habitually held in the Central American state.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J11031ACD>

38. Crime in Central America: The culture of death - Inspired by America's Latino communities, members of El Salvador's bloodthirsty gangs express their tribal loyalty with tattoos - even though they may mark them out for an early death (Independent, UK, 17 Sep 2006)

Sitting handcuffed in a sweltering police station in El Salvador's capital, San Salvador, a 22-year-old man waits as a police officer searches for the keys to a damp, grubby cell where he will spend the night. "Man, I'm innocent, I've done nothing," he says, shrugging with a smile as he leans against a filthy blue wall. "They've just arrested me because of my tattoos. Anyway, I don't care. Tomorrow I'll be back out there with the other homeboys." Approach him and you will understand what Ismael means by "my tattoos": his body - from forehead to ankles - is etched with names, acronyms, numbers, signs and creepy symbols, as if it had been painted by an alchemist or a freemason. Spanish and English slang words mingle on his legs. Skulls and monstrous figures cover his arms. If you were Salvadorean, you would not even need to ask him what he was; you could just read him. His nose, cheeks, temples and chin bear the indelible stamp of one of Central America's fiercest and deadliest gangs: the Mara Salvatrucha.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/article1603656.ece>

39. Colombian gangsters face sex ban (BBC, 13 Sep 2006)

Shades of Aristophanes' Lysistrata

Wives and girlfriends of gang members in one of Colombia's most violent cities have called a sex ban in a bid to get their men to give up the gun. Dozens of women are said to be taking part in what is being called the "strike of crossed legs", a move backed by the mayor of Pereira. The city in Colombia's coffee-growing region reported 480 killings last year. A city official said the idea came from a meeting of wives and girlfriends over the progress of a disarmament scheme.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/5341574.stm>

NARCO TRAFFICKING

40. AZ: Agents seize more than 100 pounds of cocaine this week (KVOA, 16 Sep 2006)

TUCSON, Ariz. A busy week for Customs agents. They seized more than 100 pounds of cocaine during two different border busts in San Luis. The first incident occurred Wednesday morning when a 1997 Jeep Cherokee was flagged for a thorough inspection. U-S Customs and Border Protection says a drug dog alerted customs agents to the roof of the vehicle. There, agents found a hidden compartment with about 61 pounds of cocaine.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=5416407&nav=HMO6>

41. CA: Driver busted for cocaine, stopped for not wearing seatbelt (North County Times wire services, 16 Sep 2006)

SANTA CLARITA - About 400 kilograms of cocaine were seized when the driver of a pickup truck was stopped for not wearing a seat belt, the California Highway Patrol said today. The motorist, Juan Alvarez of Tracy, in his late 20s, was driving a Toyota pickup truck north on The Old Road south of Stevenson Ranch Parkway in Santa Clarita about 3:30 p.m. yesterday when a CHP officer stopped him on suspicion of not wearing a seat belt and a minor mechanical violation as part of the "Click It Or Ticket" campaign, said CHP Officer John Lutz of the Newhall Station.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2006/09/16/news/state/18_46_159_15_06.txt

42. NY: Police Find NYC Crew Hid Drugs in Toys (AP, 15 Sep 2006)

A crew controlled by the Crips street gang made \$1 million a year dealing drugs that were sometimes delivered in toy cars and trucks, authorities said. In one instance, a child was used to take drugs to an undercover officer, police said Thursday. Other times, they said, suspects made deals on school playgrounds. The eight-month undercover investigation resulted in charges against 96 people, half of whom lived in a cluster of housing projects in the Queens borough. Police had arrested 81 of the suspects; the rest were being sought. Prosecutors said some suspects were affiliated with the Crips, including one charged with shooting a 15-year-old to death last year. Crips crews, known as sets, have proliferated in the city, they said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=104&sid=913890>

43. TX: Texas Troopers Seize \$1.1 Million In Cocaine (KWTX, 14 Sep 2006)

Three Californians were arrested on drug charges after state troopers found 40 pounds of cocaine in their SUV during a Texas Panhandle traffic stop. The Texas Department of Public Safety says the drugs are worth \$1.1 million. The DPS says the men were stopped for an alleged traffic violation Tuesday morning and gave troopers consent to search their vehicle.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kwtx.com/home/headlines/3923332.html>

44. Canada: Cocaine Pipeline Gets Clogged - Police credit inter-province intel with aiding bust (Calgary Sun, 16 Sep 2006)

Police say they've severed a major cocaine pipeline between Calgary and B.C., responsible for trafficking more than \$1 million worth of the drug onto city streets each month. Because the investigation is continuing, Insp. Shaun Gissing of the organized crime unit wouldn't provide specific details but said two significant and recent seizures allowed police to dismantle the operation. "Through investigative tactics we were able to dry up the pipeline," said Gissing. "Informant information has shown that this individual is no longer in business." Gissing said the seizures were made by an outside agency as

part of an investigative tactic to not tip off the trafficker as to what information Calgary officers had gathered. Gissing said the pipeline was responsible for trafficking between 20 and 50 kg of cocaine from B.C. to Calgary on a monthly basis - 1 kg is typically sold for \$30,000 on city streets.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://calsun.canoe.ca/News/Alberta/2006/09/16/1849024.html>

45. Canada: RCMP Smashes Cocaine Smuggling Ring at Toronto International Airport (CNW, 12 Sep 2006)

TORONTO - The General Investigation Impact Team of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Toronto Airport Detachment has charged four people with conspiracy to import cocaine into Canada. The four are part of an alleged criminal drug smuggling organization that used both human couriers and cargo shipments to import cocaine into Canada through Toronto's Pearson International Airport. The arrests follow an in depth investigation that linked seemingly unrelated interdicted human couriers and cargo shipments of cocaine to a criminal organization allegedly headed by Rayon SANTO, age 36, of no fixed address. SANTO, along with co-conspirators Royan DOWNES, age 30, Humphrey DEMPSTER, age 48, both of Toronto, and Darline AYTON, age 28, of Mississauga, are alleged to have recruited couriers and arranged for their travel to a number of southern destinations to pick up cocaine on behalf of their criminal organization. Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) officers at both Passenger and Commercial Operations were instrumental in the interception and seizure of the narcotics. In total, CBSA officers at Pearson International Airport seized more than 4 kilos of this cocaine.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/September2006/12/c5160.html>

46. Canada: Court upholds prison sentences in global smuggling scheme (Times Colonist, 12 Sep 2006)

At almost 12 tonnes, it was the biggest hashish bust in B.C. history and the court case unfolded like a high-speed, high-seas whodunit ending on Vancouver Island. Now the B.C. Court of Appeal, in a decision released Monday, has affirmed the decisions of a provincial court judge who convicted most of the would-be drug smugglers with sentences ranging from 2 1/2 to six years in prison. Out on bail during their appeal, convicted smugglers surrendered themselves Monday morning to authorities in Nanaimo and Vancouver. The story became public on Nov. 4, 1998, when RCMP moved in to Fanny Bay during the early morning and arrested men loading a dumptruck with bales of hashish - 9.59 tonnes - removed off a fishboat, the Ansare II.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K3B3159CD>

47. Mexico extradites major drug gang brother to U.S. (Reuters, 16 Sep 2006)

Mexico extradited one of the infamous Arellano Felix drug-smuggling brothers to the United States on Saturday in a rare hand-over of a major Mexican trafficker. Mexican agents flew Francisco Rafael Arellano Felix, the family's oldest brother, to the Texas border city of Brownsville and gave him to U.S. authorities, the attorney general's office

said. "He is accused in the United States of drug trafficking and possession of cocaine," prosecutor Javier Laynez told reporters. Based in Tijuana, the Arellano Felix brothers lead one of Mexico's most powerful drug cartels, although it has been weakened by a series of arrests in recent years.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?V26E219CD>

48. Gunmen Kill Police Chief in Mexico (AP, 13 Sep 2006)

Gunmen ambushed and killed a police chief in the Mexican border state of Nuevo Leon Tuesday in the latest slaying of a law officer in a region ravaged by a war between drug gangs. Enrique Barrera, police chief of the town of Linares, about 135 miles southwest of the border at McAllen, Texas, was shot dead as he left his home to go to work, said Nuevo Leon Attorney General Carlos Trevino. Trevino said the killing had the hallmarks of an organized crime hit, but he needed to gather more evidence before making a conclusive statement. A lone gunman killed Nuevo Leon's top investigator, Marcelo Garza, last week outside an art gallery near the northern city of Monterrey.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14809599/>

49. FARC: We don't own any coca fields (ANNCOL, 17 Sep 2006)

In an 8-point public communiqué sent to ANNCOL, Colombia's main guerrilla organisation denied to be involved in any direct way with coca cultivation or drug trafficking. "FARC neither sows, nor owns, nor processes, nor transports nor commercialises any kind of narcotic substance or psychotropic product", the statement said. The communiqué was apparently triggered by Colombian media CARACOL alleging that FARC owns 4.600 hectares of coca fields in the Macarena National Park, situated east of the Andes Mountains. According to FARC, the coca fields are owned and worked by thousands of campesinos, who have no other way to survive. The guerrilla organisation did however call for effective strategies to fight the criminal mafia groups, who refines the coca leaves into cocaine and ship it abroad. "We are convinced that the battle against the cancer of narco-trafficking can only be won definitively by elaborating a global strategy that includes the legalization of these products, because this will put an end to fabulous profits that they generate", the statement says.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.anncol.org/uk/site/doc.php?id=253>

50. Trinidad & Tobago: T&T named as heroin hotspot (Trinidad Express, 17 Sep 2006)

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO has been identified by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) as a major transshipment point for North-American-bound heroin. This in the wake of criticisms by Prime Minister Patrick Manning that the United States is not doing enough to help this country and the region fight the drug war. During a recent British Gas luncheon, Manning said that the US was initially concerned about drugs, but that since 9/11 the focus was on terrorism. "We find that concern about drugs has gone to the back burner," Manning said. "The drug cartels in South America are no less active today than they were two or three or five years ago." The US has publicly said that they have

withdrawn military aid to this country, including assistance for the war on drugs, because of Trinidad and Tobago's support for the International Criminal Court. In June the United States DEA broke up an international heroin smuggling ring with the arrest of 22 people, one of them Trinidad and Tobago citizen Gabriel Hernandez, who was later extradited. Hernandez pleaded guilty of conspiring to import heroin into the US when he was extradited. The drug ring is believed to have smuggled more than 200 kilos of heroin since 2004 and worth over US\$14 million into the United States.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.trinidadexpress.com/index.pl/article_news?id=161016162

51. Peru, U.S. Plan New Anti - Narcotics Push (Reuters, 13 Sep 2006)

Peru's new government plans a fresh push against rising cocaine production in the world's No. 2 producer, betting on U.S. support to slash coca crops and catch narcotics at ports, officials said on Wednesday. Peru has failed to cut cocaine output since 2000 despite some \$330 million in U.S. aid. The Andean nation's coca output jumped almost 40 percent last year and many coca fields are no-go areas for police, as [Shining Path](#) guerrillas holed up in the jungle offer protection for drug traffickers. "We want a greater state presence in coca-growing areas, more effective coca eradication, coca crop substitution and security for export cargo to limit smuggling," Peru's anti-narcotics chief Romulo Pizarro told Reuters. "We can't let these traffickers continue to poison people's lives."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/world/international-peru-drugs.html>

52. Kenya becomes cocaine distribution hub (AP, 11 Sep 2006)

A beachfront mansion. A high-speed boat. And a ton of cocaine. It sounds like "Miami Vice," but in Kenya it's real. Until recently a backwater producer of marijuana and hashish, Kenya has become a cocaine distribution hub, according to the U.S., the U.N. and British diplomats. Traffickers from South America are taking advantage of Nairobi's extensive air links to Europe and Asia and spending piles of cash to minimize government interference, they say.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14788593/>

CYBERTHREAT & THEFT

53. DHS releases Cyber Storm report (InfoWorld, 13 Sep 2006)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released its [public findings from Operation Cyber Storm](#), a large-scale tabletop simulation of a coordinated cyber attack on the government and critical infrastructure [that was held in February, 2006](#). The exercise involved US-CERT, the Homeland Security Operation center as well as the National Cyber Response Coordination Group (NCRCG) and the Intragency Incident Mngement Group (IIMG), various ISACs from the transportation, energy, IT and telecommunications sectors, and 100 private sector companies including Microsoft and VeriSign. The report was released by DHS's National Cyber Security Division (NCSD) Wednesday and while no performance "grade" was assigned, read between the lines of

the public report and the term "Needs Improvement" comes to mind. The exercise simulated a large-scale cyber campaign that disrupts multiple critical infrastructure, as well as simulated "physical demonstrations and disturbances" to test the ability of government to respond to multiple incidents simultaneously, even when its not clear that the events are related (read: 9/11).

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://weblog.infoworld.com/techwatch/archives/007886.html>

54. Cyber Crime Becoming More Organized (Reuters, 15 Sep 2006)

LONDON - Cyber scams are increasingly being committed by organized crime syndicates out to profit from sophisticated ruses rather than hackers keen to make an online name for themselves, according to a top U.S. official. Christopher Painter, deputy chief of the computer crimes and intellectual property section at the Department of Justice, said there had been a distinct shift in recent years in the type of cyber criminals that online detectives now encounter. "There has been a change in the people who attack computer networks, away from the 'bragging hacker' toward those driven by monetary motives," Painter told Reuters in an interview this week. Although media reports often focus on stories about teenage hackers tracked down in their bedroom, the greater danger lies in the more anonymous virtual interlopers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E2C3429CD>

55. Six Tips to Protect Your Online Search Privacy (Electronic Frontier Foundation)

Google, MSN Search, Yahoo!, AOL, and most other search engines collect and store records of your search queries. If these records are revealed to others, they can be embarrassing or even cause great harm. Would you want strangers to see searches that reference your online reading habits, medical history, finances, sexual orientation, or political affiliation? Recent events highlight the danger that search logs pose. In August 2006, AOL published 650,000 users' search histories on its website.¹ Though each user's logs were only associated with a random ID number, several users' identities were readily discovered based on their search queries. For instance, the New York Times connected the logs of user No. 4417749 with 62 year-old Thelma Arnold. These records exposed, as she put it, her "whole personal life."² Disclosures like AOL's are not the only threats to your privacy. Unfortunately, it may be all too easy for the government or individual litigants to subpoena your search provider and get access to your search history. For example, in January 2006, Yahoo!, AOL, and Microsoft reportedly cooperated with a broad Justice Department request for millions of search records. Although Google successfully challenged this request,³ the lack of clarity in current law leaves your online privacy at risk.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.eff.org/Privacy/search/searchtips.php>

TECHNOLOGY

56. Spy Databases Join Forces (FreeMarketNews.com, 12 Sep 2006)

In an effort to improve the usability of police and anti-terrorist information systems, the FBI and Department of Homeland Security have merged their databases into a single spy system. The joined data will make it easier for agents from both organizations to monitor and catch criminals, according to McClatchy Newspapers. Before the merger, government records were dispersed to several different government databases. By joining the databases, agents have access to a wider range of data in a shorter span of time. The new system contains criminal history records, fingerprints, and other personal information of over 47 million people, including over one million illegal immigrants wanted for deportation. Most of the information was only available to the Department of Homeland Security, however now that there is a single computerized system there is a plan to give police across the nation access to the database within the next two years. Police in Dallas and Boston will be the first to pilot the new system.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.freemarketnews.com/WorldNews.asp?nid=20803>

RESOURCES

57. Norfolk Southern Whistle-Stop Tour Delivers Hazardous Materials Safety Training to Maryland, Pennsylvania and Ohio (PR Newswire, 12 Sep 2006)

NORFOLK, Va. - A special train operated by Norfolk Southern Railway will visit Maryland, Pennsylvania and Ohio September 18-22 to promote Transportation Community Awareness and Emergency Response (TRANSCAER®), a nationwide program to increase understanding of the safe transportation of hazardous materials and the importance of emergency response training and planning. "The TRANSCAER tour underscores Norfolk Southern's commitment to the safety of the communities in which we operate," said Chuck Wehrmeister, Norfolk Southern's vice president safety and environmental. "The training provides first responders with a unique opportunity to gain important hands-on knowledge about railroad equipment and the transport of hazardous materials by rail."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060912/dctu071.html?.v=39>

58. "Federal and State Quarantine and Isolation Authority," Congressional Research Service report updated August 16, 2006

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL33201.pdf>

OPPORTUNITIES

59. Master Cattlemen's Program to be held Tim Smith (The Lincoln Journal, 14 Sep 2006)

There will be a University of Georgia Master Cattlemen's Program held seven Monday nights beginning September 25th through November 6th, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The first four sessions will be at the McGillWoodruff Ag Center, 13 North ByPass, Washington Ga. and the next three sessions at the Warren County Community Service Building, 48 Warren St., Warrenton Ga. This is a great opportunity to get the latest

information concerning beef cattle production. Topics include Facilities, Fly Control, Economics and Marketing, Meats, General Herd Health, Nutrition, Forages, Genetics, Foreign Animal Disease/ Agroterrorism, Reproduction and National Animal Identification System (NAIS). These topics will be covered by the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Specialist and UGA Faculty Members.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.lincolnjournalonline.com/news/2006/0914/News/016.html>

60. Event to focus on safe food (The Kansas City Star, 14 Sep 2006)

“Here we are at the bread belt of America - of the world,” said Kansas City FBI agent Dave Cudmore at a news conference Wednesday. “...We can so easily be attacked.” The news conference was to publicize the International Symposium on Agroterrorism, set for Sept. 25-29 at the Westin Crown Center hotel. Invited speakers include FBI Director Robert Mueller, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and Attorney General Alberto Gonzales. The FBI, the Heart of America Joint Terrorism Task Force and the Overland Park Police Department - organizers of the invitation-only event - hope to draw attention to the need to protect the nation’s food supply from terrorism. “One-sixth of the entire U.S. economy is based in agriculture,” said FBI agent Craig Watz. “When you go and buy a hamburger at McDonald’s, do you think of how safe it is?”

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/local/15512861.htm>

61. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking - Department Of Homeland Security

Office of the Secretary

6 CFR Part 5

[Docket Number 2006-0027]

Privacy Act of 1974: Implementation of Exemptions

AGENCY: Office of Security, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security is concurrently establishing a new system of records pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974 for the Office of Security entitled the “Office of Security File System.” This system of records will support the administration of a program that provides security for the Department by safeguarding and protecting the Department's personnel, property, facilities and information. In this proposed rulemaking, the Department proposes to exempt portions of this system of records from one or more provisions of the Privacy Act because of criminal, civil and administrative enforcement requirements.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 12, 2006.

FULL REPORTS

62. Best Practices: Current Technology for Ensuring 'Safefreight' and 'Safemail' (Tom Bauer, Supply & Demand Chain Executive, August/September 2006)

The safe handling of hazardous materials continues to be a widely publicized challenge facing manufacturers, government agencies and commercial organizations across our nation. Even the smallest contamination leak can spell the most drastic consequences,

such as hefty clean-up costs, stringent fines, legal fees and significant long-term implications on operational efficiency.

Since the September 11 attacks, fears of bio-terrorism have become reality, posing threats going well beyond traditional hazardous materials. Our mail system has seen it all — from the anthrax attacks of 2001 to other high-profile events — alerting us that mail, like other common sources of contamination, needs to be handled with the highest level of responsibility.

In the face of these threats, companies must be prepared to build significant capabilities to determine the presence, or absence, of suspicious or obvious bio-threat material in letters, flats, parcels and packages delivered by the USPS, Federal Express, the United Parcel Service and other commercial carriers in order to safeguard the organization and its staff.

The Pentagon is leading the way in mail sanitation best practices. It currently employs unique, rigorous operations and technology aimed at constructing a robust fortress around all forms of chemical and biological agents. These steps are needed to ensure that the safety of facilities — and the way of life within those facilities — isn't compromised in any shape or form. This article addresses current best practices and the underlying technologies for handling hazardous materials.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

http://www.sdexec.com/article_arch.asp?article_id=9034

63. U.S. Treasury Officials Report on Blocking Terrorists' Money - Officials urge other countries' finance ministries to take on security role (Dept of State, 12 Sep 2006)

Washington - A "revolution" has taken place in recent years as the U.S. Treasury Department has become integral in matters of international security, according to U.S. officials.

Several Treasury Department officials spoke September 12 before the U.S. Senate Banking Committee about work the department has done to disrupt the finances of terrorists.

Daniel Glaser, a Treasury deputy assistant secretary, said the United States has proven that security no longer is simply the province of law enforcement, intelligence agencies, and defense departments. In his testimony, Glaser said Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence is "the first office of its type in the world." He urged other countries' finance ministries to "become integral components of national security communities."

Glaser said that Treasury has pushed international standards for designating individuals or entities as money-launderers, terrorist supporters or weapons proliferators through a Financial Action Task Force and through the United Nations.

He said the United States itself has submitted to an evaluation as to how its financial sector adheres to such standards and that it also has participated in assessments of other countries that are "strategically important ... in the campaign against terrorist financing" - Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, India, Switzerland and Turkey.

Recent strengthening of the international standards, according to Glaser, includes steps to combat illicit use of cash couriers and to improve information on the originators of cross-border wire transfers.

Glaser said that the U.S. Treasury is able to designate a foreign jurisdiction, institution, or type of account or transaction as a money-laundering concern, thereby allowing punitive measures ranging from recordkeeping requirements to termination of financial accounts with the designated target. Due to cooperation with other countries, such targets can be reported to the U.N. Security Council, which can designate them for financial isolation by 191 member states. In 2005, some 18 nations submitted names for the U.N. Security Council's consideration, according to Glaser.

Earlier in 2006, Treasury held a dialogue with bankers and regulators from the Middle East/North Africa region on international standards and plans a similar discussion in Latin America in early 2007.

To date, the Treasury Department has designated 375 individuals or entities as involved in terrorism. According to Adam Szubin, the director of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, who also spoke to the Senate panel, more than two-thirds of those targets are associated with either al Qaida or the Taliban.

Earlier in September, Treasury designated Bayt al-Mal and Yousser Company, which are financial institutions that functioned as Hezbollah's unofficial treasury in Lebanon. (See [related article](#).)

For more information on U.S. policy, see [Terrorist Financing](#) and [Money Laundering](#). [Glaser's testimony](#) and [Szubin's testimony](#) are available on the Treasury Department's Web site.

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