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

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*CABLE Gram* Volume 2 Issue 69

8 November 2005 *CABLE Gram*<sup>TM</sup>

Good Morning All,

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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

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

Please forward the *CABLE Gram* to all people you feel will find it useful!

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## **FEDERAL**

### **1. DHS chief sees FEMA operating like a successful business (By Greta Wodele, CongressDaily, 7 Nov 2005)**

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said Friday he plans to restructure the besieged Federal Emergency Management Agency to efficiently operate like a 21st century distribution company with the ability to track and locate supplies. "We want to be able to do what UPS and DHL does," Chertoff said in a speech to the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Experts from inside and outside the government are working with FEMA—widely criticized for its response to Hurricane Katrina—to build an "effective distribution of supplies and people" during an emergency, he added.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=32734&dcn=e\\_tma](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=32734&dcn=e_tma)

### **2. FEMA Internal Katrina E-Mail Released (AP, 3 Nov 2005)**

CAPITOL HILL - Former FEMA director Michael Brown, already denounced by lawmakers for his handling of Hurricane Katrina, is coming in for more criticism. A House panel investigating the government's sluggish response to the storm has released 23 pages of internal e-mail. The e-mails, dating from the time Katrina hit, show that Brown was preoccupied with how he came across on television. In one e-mail, a FEMA public affairs official tells Brown his outfit looks "fabulous," to which Brown replies, "I got it at Nordstroms," then adds, "Are you proud of me? Can I quit now? Can I go home?" In another, an aide reminds Brown to pay heed to his image on T-V, suggesting that he roll up his sleeves.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=312846>

### **3. Congress Wants A New TSA Modeled After the FAA (Airport Business, 8 Nov 2005)**

Efforts are under way to transform the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) into a more business-like organization. The staff of the House Homeland Security Committee is drafting legislation to reconfigure TSA's organizational structure to make it similar to that of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), said Adam Tsao, a committee staff member, in a legislative outlook forum at last week's fall meeting of the Regional Airline Association (RAA). Just as the FAA's operational side - the air traffic controllers - now have an arms-length relationship to the policy development and regulatory side of the agency, Tsao said the operational side of TSA - the screeners - would be separated from that agency's regulators and security standard writers. A chief operating officer would be hired to operate the screening unit in a business-like fashion.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.airportbusiness.com/article/article.jsp?id=4154&siteSection=5>

#### **4. TSA Tells Congress, 'Registered Traveler' Program Planned Nationwide (AP, 4 Nov 2005)**

The government wants to offer airline passengers the chance to avoid extra security checks. The Transportation Security Administration plans to make a "registered traveler" program available nationwide, agency chief Kip Hawley said Thursday in prepared testimony to Congress. No timetable was given. The program, which was tested at five airports, allows people to avoid random pat-downs if they pay a fee, clear a voluntary background check and provide some form of biometric identification, like a fingerprint. It's designed to let people who travel often avoid delays and to free up screeners to focus on other travelers. "We believe that a nationwide registered traveler program can provide expedited screening for many travelers and enhance aviation security as well," Hawley told the House Homeland Security subcommittee on economic security.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.airportbusiness.com/article/article.jsp?id=4119&siteSection=5>

#### **5. U.S. Plans 'registered Traveler' Program (AP, 3 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The government plans to offer airline passengers nationwide the chance to avoid extra security checks by paying a fee and agreeing to a background check. Transportation Security Administration chief Kip Hawley, who announced the plan to Congress on Thursday, said his agency also is studying other ways to reduce security delays. That includes possibly rescinding the post-Sept. 11 prohibition on passengers' carrying scissors and small knives onto planes. Hawley said the "registered traveler" program will debut June 20 after an overall evaluation of airport security. Officials did not say how much participants would pay, saying private companies selected to run the program would set the fee. A trial program now extended at the airport in Orlando, Fla., charges \$79.95.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=78717>

#### **6. Republican Wants to Fence US-Mexico Border (AP, 3 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - A House Republican wants to build a fence along the entire 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border, a plan that could cost billions of dollars and one that critics say would do little to stop illegal immigration. California Rep. Duncan Hunter, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, plans to introduce legislation that would create a two-layer reinforced fence with lighting and sensors from the Pacific Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico, a 100-yard border zone to the north of the barriers and 25 new ports of entry. Currently, most of the westernmost 14-mile stretch of the border is lined with parallel fencing. There is secure fencing at other vulnerable points, but long stretches of the border are protected only by patchy barbed wire or nothing at all.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=177564>

#### **7. 43,000 sign up for US-VISIT in Nogales (Nogales International, 7 Nov 2005)**

About 43,000 people are participating in the US-VISIT tracking system implemented in August at Nogales ports of entry. Nogales is one of four ports of entry being used as a testing ground in the United States for the high-tech identification system.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2005/11/07/news/news3.txt>

**8. Study: Border Security Woes Warrant Merger (AP, 8 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - Poor coordination between two border security enforcement agencies has resulted in systematic failures to stop, remove and investigate illegal immigrants entering the country, a federal report says. Homeland Security officials issued a blistering response to the report by the department's inspector general, calling the findings inaccurate and shortsighted. The report, obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press, recommends merging Customs and Border Protection with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to eliminate competition and dysfunction at the two bureaus. Both are arms of the Homeland Security Department. "The division between CBP and ICE is marked by a clear institutional barrier," the report says. "Shortfalls in operational coordination and information sharing have fostered an environment of uncertainty and mistrust between CBP and ICE personnel." "These organizational conditions have led to the articulation of mismatched priorities, competition and, at times, operational inflexibility," the report concludes.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=12008>

**9. Senate Rejects Post-Hurricane Vouchers (AP, 3 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The Senate on Thursday rejected direct private-school vouchers for hurricane victims, but its proposed aid for private schools still drew fire from public educators. In amending a massive budget bill, senators took aim at helping the Gulf Coast schools damaged by Hurricane Katrina \_ and the schools nationwide that have enrolled displaced students. Vouchers, one of the most politically touchy issues in education, entered the debate again. Supporters of these private-school scholarships say they offer much-needed choice for poor children, while critics say they rob money from public schools at taxpayer expense.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=313156>

**10. Clarke Urges More Subway Searches (AP, 7 Nov 2005)**

NEW YORK - Former White House counter-terrorism adviser Richard Clarke says the random search by police of bags on New York subways is a program that should be copied in other cities. Terrorists who plan attacks with multiple bombs set to go off at the same time rely on the knowledge that they will not encounter surprises by police, Clarke said last week in a deposition for a federal court case challenging the search program. "They rehearse that, they train it, they do dry runs," Clarke said in response to questions posed by New York Civil Liberties Union Legal Director Christopher Dunn. Clarke said he believes most U.S. mass transit systems are underprotected.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=80&sid=313843>

**11. Four arrests linked to Chinese spy ring (Washington Times, by Bill Gertz, 5 Nov 2005)**

Four persons arrested in Los Angeles are part of a Chinese intelligence-gathering ring, federal investigators said, and the suspects caused serious compromises for 15 years to major U.S. weapons systems, including submarines and warships. U.S. intelligence and security officials said the case remains under investigation but that it could prove to be among the most damaging spy cases since the 1985 one of John A. Walker Jr., who passed Navy communication codes to Moscow for 22 years. The Los Angeles spy ring has operated since 1990 and has funneled technology and military secrets to China in the form of documents and computer disks, officials close to the case said. The ring was led by Chi Mak and his wife, Rebecca Laiwah Chiu, along with Mr. Chi's brother, Tai Wang Mak, and his wife, Fuk Heung Li, officials said. Key compromises uncovered so far include sensitive data on Aegis battle management systems that are the core of U.S. Navy destroyers and cruisers.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.washtimes.com/national/20051104-111851-2539r.htm>

## **12. Business Security Firms Fend Off Corporate Espionage (The Business Ledger, 7 Nov 2005)**

Even though the majority of it is hush-hush, corporate espionage and intelligence collecting are indeed real, forcing companies to implement multi-faceted security plans. Foreign spies disguised as an educational documentary crew touring a defense manufacturing plant, a major foreign airline bugging all of its first-class passengers, a Korean businessman taking in-depth photos of new automobiles at the Chicago Auto show and then claiming that he is part of the Japanese delegation—all of these have been tried and ultimately have failed, but the world of corporate espionage is often times a successful venture for a competing firm. The words “espionage” and “spy” usually conjure up images of tuxedo-clad James Bond-types jet-setting to exotic places with nifty gadgets to save the world from evil forces. However, in today’s world of corporate espionage, it can be tactics as unglamorous as dumpster-diving or as painstaking as reading every employee’s personal Blog for a kernel of important company information that makes for a super spy. Whether they admit to it or not, most companies have partaken in some sort of attempt to learn more information about their competition. And while most methods used are always ethical, it does not make them any less efficient or less harmful to opposing firms.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thebusinessledger.com/Articles.asp?artId=985&isuID=54>

## **STATE AND LOCAL NEWS**

### **13. AZ: Sky Harbor to Upgrade its Security (The Arizona Republic, 8 Nov 2005)**

Sky Harbor International Airport is prepared to spend up to \$15 million on surveillance equipment designed to detect terrorists or other criminals lurking around the airport's edges. The technology, known as a perimeter intrusion detection system, could consist of lasers and closed-circuit televisions, new fence-line wiring and below-ground sensors. None of the upgrades is being mandated by the federal government. While security at Sky Harbor meets or exceeds current standards, airport officials say they still believe the expense is necessary.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.airportbusiness.com/article/article.jsp?siteSection=1&id=4163>

**14. CA: Arrest in identity-theft probe - The owner of a storefront business in Corona is being held. Her bail is set at \$2.5 million (The Press-Enterprise, 8 Nov 2005)**

Police arrested the owner of a storefront realty and lending business in Corona on Monday on suspicion of using the business to steal people's identities to buy and refinance \$2.5 million in real estate around Corona, Riverside and Moreno Valley, police said. It is the second major real estate identity-theft arrest in Corona this year, said Corona police Detective Frank Zellers. He said this type of identity theft has increased dramatically.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.pe.com/localnews/corona/stories/PE\\_News\\_Local\\_C\\_real08.17d94f3e.html](http://www.pe.com/localnews/corona/stories/PE_News_Local_C_real08.17d94f3e.html)

**15. FL: 2nd migrant group widens smuggling probe (Miami Herald, 8 Nov 2005)**

Federal immigration authorities opened a second investigation into possible Haitian migrant smuggling Monday after a 26-foot cabin cruiser carrying 19 migrants washed up in Palm Beach County. The group included four pregnant women, an infant boy and two Jamaicans -- one of whom had previously been removed from the United States. U.S. Border Patrol spokesman Steve McDonald said all 19 were being processed and the boat had been seized in Juno Beach. There was no known smuggler in custody as of Monday afternoon.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/13108686.htm>

**16. HI: Hawaii Begins Airport Watch for Bird Flu (AP, 8 Nov 2005)**

Hawaii became the first state in the nation this week to monitor airports for signs of bird flu or other flu viruses, health officials said. Passengers and visitors at Honolulu International Airport will not be required to submit to examinations but will be tested only voluntarily using nose or throat specimens taken at the airport clinic. Passengers could also be referred to the clinic by an airline or medical personnel. Making flu testing available is expected to improve the state's ability to respond to any threat of a pandemic flu, according to Catherine Chow, a medical prevention officer for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.airportbusiness.com/article/article.jsp?id=4141&siteSection=5>

**17. HI: Ten indicted on ID theft charges (The Honolulu Advertiser, 8 Nov 2005)**

Ten people have been indicted on federal identity theft and fraud charges by a task force designed to tackle a persistent problem in the Islands, the U.S. attorney's office said yesterday. The Hawai'i Identity Theft and Fraud Task Force is a group of state, federal, and county law enforcement officials organized in October 2004 at the request of the U.S. attorney, Honolulu Police Chief Boisse Correa and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. Of the 10 people indicted, three — including a pair wanted for allegedly bilking a retired Big Island couple out of more than \$150,000 — are still at large. The indictments represent a

crackdown on repeat identity thieves and financial-fraud purveyors, the U.S. attorney's office said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?F5B24202C>

**18. IL: Had this been an actual emergency... (Morris Daily Herald, 7 Nov 2005)**

Fifty hazardous materials-related incidents at the same location in just six days would normally be cause for alarm. During the last two weekends, those 50 or so incidents — all simulated — were part of an intensive training program held at the Grundy County Administration Center. The Grundy County Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team played host to 30 students from Northeastern Illinois participating in the University of Illinois, Fire Service Institute, Hazardous Materials Technician “A” training. The Technician A level is the first of two, 40-hour training sessions for hazardous materials technicians. The training includes a combination of classroom and hands-on training evolutions. There were even homework assignments.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J1EB3102C>

**19. IN: Tornado Takes 22 Lives (Princeton Daily Clarion, 7 Nov 2005)**

EVANSVILLE-A tornado cut a swath through a mobile home park and smashed homes early Sunday in southwest Indiana, killing at least 22 people, injuring about 200 and knocking out power to thousands, officials said. The tornado touched down near Henderson, Ky., north of the Ohio River and then jumped into Indiana about 2:15 a.m. CST, striking the Eastbrook Mobile Home Park on Evansville's southeast side. Vanderburgh County Sheriff Brad Ellsworth said at least 17 people were killed in the mobile home park and that rescuers continued to search for victims and survivors. Ellsworth previously had said 18 were killed, but said that was an error. Five others were killed in adjoining Warrick County, east of Evansville, where the tornado struck the Ohio River city of Newburgh. The victims included a woman who was eight months pregnant, her husband and a child in their home in the rural town of Degonia Springs, said Warrick County Sheriff Marvin Heilman.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.tristate-media.com/articles/2005/11/07/pdclarion/news/news1.txt>

**20. MI: Michigan Immigrant Smuggling Bust (WLNS, 8 Nov 2005)**

Eight Chinese nationals are in custody after being found inside a semi trailer parked at an Oakland County recycling plant. Greg Palmore is a spokesman for the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Detroit. He says the 5 women and 3 men had spent 3 days in the trailer without food or water.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wlns.com/Global/story.asp?S=4087738>

**21. MN: 5 Cases of Polio in Amish Group Raise New Fears (New York Times, 8 Nov 2005)**

LONG PRAIRIE, Minn. - Polio was pronounced dead in the Western Hemisphere years ago, after one of the most successful public health campaigns in history. But now it is

stealing through a tiny Amish community here in central Minnesota, spreading from an 8-month-old girl to four children on two neighboring farms. So far, no one has been crippled by the disease; only 1 in 200 cases of polio results in paralysis. But worried public health officials say it may be only a matter of time.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/08/national/08polio.html?th&emc=th>

## **22. NV Mayor: Sever Thumbs of Graffiti Artists (AP, 3 Nov 2005)**

RENO, Nev. - Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman has suggested that those who deface freeways with graffiti should have their thumbs cut off on television. Goodman, appearing Wednesday on the "Nevada Newsmakers" television show, said, "In the old days in France, they had beheading of people who commit heinous crimes. You know, we have a beautiful highway landscaping redevelopment in our downtown. We have desert tortoises and beautiful paintings of flora and fauna. These punks come along and deface it. I'm saying maybe you put them on TV and cut off a thumb," the mayor added. "That may be the right thing to do."

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/worldlatest/story/0,1280,-5390726,00.html>

## **23. NJ: Security Scare At Newark Liberty Airport - Ticketless Man Arrested Boarding Flight (CBS2, 8 Nov 2005)**

There was a security scare at Newark Liberty Airport after a man boarded a plane without a ticket or boarding pass. Sources told CBS-2 that a man walked up to the American Airlines counter last Saturday, and asked the price of a one-way ticket to Miami. He told the ticket agent he wanted to think it over and asked if she could print an itinerary. The man used that itinerary to bypass several layers of security and got on a plane, but all seats were taken. He was escorted off the plane and went to another gate, but was finally stopped and arrested.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://wcbstv.com/topstories/local\\_story\\_312054547.html](http://wcbstv.com/topstories/local_story_312054547.html)

## **24. NC: State, local officials take steps for possible flu pandemic (Herald-Sun, 6 Nov 2005)**

DURHAM - State and local officials say North Carolina has never been more prepared to handle a flu pandemic, including the strain of avian flu that experts fear may make a massive jump from birds to people. But they also say more coordination among public and private agencies is needed to protect citizens' health. Even with measures to halt the spread of a virus, deaths from a pandemic flu are inevitable. The state has created models based on a variety of scenarios. In the worst case, North Carolina could expect between 5,000 and 6,000 deaths if a widespread flu occurs on the scale of the 1918 pandemic, which killed between 50 million and 100 million people worldwide, said state epidemiologist Jeff Engel.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.herald-sun.com/durham/4-665160.html>

## **GANG ACTIVITY**

### **25. MS-13: Gang thrives despite deportation – “...deportation is little more than a taxpayerfinanced visit with friends and family before returning north.” (Los Angeles Times, 8 Nov 2005) – Very interesting article!**

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador - On a sweltering afternoon, an unmarked white jetliner moves to a remote terminal at the international airport here and disgorges dozens of criminal deportees from the United States. Marshals release the handcuffed prisoners, who shuffle into a processing room. Of the 70 passengers, at least four are members of Mara Salvatrucha, or MS-13, a gang formed two decades ago in Los Angeles. For one of them, Melvin “Joker” Cruz-Mendoza, the trip is nothing new. This is his fourth deportation — the second this year. Wiry with a shaved head, the 24-year-old pleaded guilty in separate felony robbery and drug cases in Los Angeles. “MS” covers his right forearm. Other tattoos are carved into the skin above his eyebrows. In the last 12 years, U.S. immigration authorities have logged more than 50,000 deportations of immigrants with criminal records to Central America, including untold numbers of gang members like Cruz-Mendoza. But a deportation policy aimed in part at breaking up a Los Angeles street gang has backfired and helped spread it across Central America and back into other parts of the United States.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.freewmexican.com/news/34770.html>

### **26. CA: Ramos pleased with impact of expanded anti-gang unit (San Bernardino Sun, 8 Nov 2005)**

District Attorney Michael A. Ramos said Monday Nov. 7 that the money and personnel devoted to ridding county neighborhoods of gangs are having a significant impact. Prosecutors in the District Attorney's Gang Unit filed 211 gang cases countywide in the three-month period beginning July 1, Ramos said. In that time, 99 defendants in gang cases were sentenced to state prison for a total of 528 years. Ramos joined forces with other authorities in San Bernardino County in May to announce the vigorous prosecution of gang-related crimes. After having only one gang prosecutor each in San Bernardino, Fontana and the High Desert, the District Attorney's Office now boasts 15 lawyers who are dedicated to prosecuting gang crimes.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci\\_3192683](http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci_3192683)

### **27. NY: Fulton Fish Market OKs deal to open shop in Bronx (NY Daily News, 8 Nov 2005)**

It was tougher than reeling in a marlin, but the Fulton Fish Market dispute has been settled - and the fishmongers will move to the Bronx this weekend. "We really have a settlement," said attorney William Kuntz, who represents the New Fulton Fish Market, a cooperative of wholesalers. "It's a done deal." The agreement calls for the market to pack up Saturday and open in a new \$85 million refrigerated indoor home in Hunts Point on Monday - a year after it was supposed to have moved. The delay was caused by a legal dispute between the fishmongers and the company that unloads the fish when it arrives at the market, Laro Service Systems.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nydailynews.com/front/story/363582p-309556c.html>

**28. UT: Youth hurt in gang-related fight in Orem (Daily Herald, 8 Nov 2005)**

A young man suffered severe head injuries after being beaten with baseball bats and crowbars in a gang-related fight this weekend. The assault was a rarity in a county where gangs are usually associated with nothing more serious than graffiti. Orem police arrested a teenage boy Saturday night and charged him with aggravated assault and felony criminal mischief in connection with an assault at an Orem restaurant early Saturday morning. According to Orem police, two groups of people at Beto's in Provo "had words with one another" before one group left the restaurant and went to Beto's in Orem, followed by the second group, which was identified as the Hispanic gang Provo Vatos Locos.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?X1922202C>

**NARCO TRAFFICKING**

**29. GAO Decries Steroid Internet Sales (AP, 3 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - Any teen with a computer and an e-mail address can obtain anabolic steroids and distributors face little chance of being caught, congressional investigators said in a report issued Thursday. The Government Accountability Office study found the Internet makes it easy for mainly overseas distributors to avoid detection. And for those who are caught, the penalties are much lighter than for many other illegal drugs. The report was released as the Zero Tolerance Roundtable, which brings together professional, college and high school athletic representatives, advocacy groups and parents of steroid victims, held its second meeting to address the growing problem of steroid use by young people.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=88995>

**30. FL: 17 Arrested In Cocaine, Marijuana Bust (AP, 8 Nov 2005)**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - 17 people have been arrested and more than 1,900 pounds of marijuana and about 100 pounds of cocaine have been seized in a Jacksonville drug bust. Sheriff John Rutherford calls the arrests and seizures "the fruits of a Super Bowl drug operation." The bust was called Operation Poppy Seed. Rutherford says the organization brought drugs into Texas from Mexico and then distributed them to Atlanta, Jacksonville, Orlando, Miami and Puerto Rico. He says the drugs seized had a combined street value of about three \$1 million.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.local6.com/news/5280241/detail.html>

**31. MD: Big Cocaine Bust in Lexington Park (Southern Maryland News, 7 Nov 2005)**

On November 5th, Patrol Officers responded to a call for a suspicious vehicle in a Lexington Park neighborhood. Upon arrival Officers located a 1997 Ford Expedition

containing four subjects. As Officers made contact with the driver and vehicle occupants, cocaine and related paraphernalia was observed inside the vehicle. Additional officers responded and the driver, Thomas Lionel Wills, exited the vehicle while the front seat passenger fled on foot. Officers gave chase and encountered the front seat passenger, Tavoy Kelly Somerville, in an adjacent wooded area. A struggle ensued and Suspect Somerville was arrested. Suspect Somerville discarded a quantity of cocaine as he fled and it was recovered. Cocaine was recovered from inside the vehicle as well as nearly \$7,800.00 in cash. Suspects Wills and Somerville were charged with possession of cocaine, as were the two additional occupants, Joseph William Medley Jr. (47, of Lexington Park) and Russell Allen Randall (24, of Lexington Park).

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://somid.com/news/headlines/articles/2894.shtml>

**32. NJ: Drug bust nets cocaine, marijuana; 60 charged (Gannett New Jersey, 8 Nov 2005)**

A drug bust that turned up four pounds of cocaine and nine pounds of marijuana has so far led to charges against 60 people in four counties, most of them in Middlesex County. Among those caught up in the sweep were the wife and daughter of East Brunswick High School football coach Marcus Borden, who drew national attention in October over a controversy involving team prayer. The cocaine seized during the investigation had a street value of \$110,000, Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne Forrest said. An assault weapon, 34 Ecstasy pills, and \$16,203 in cash were also seized, authorities said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051108/NEWS03/511080303/1007>

**33. Canada: Meth crowd linked to identity theft (Edmonton Journal, 8 Nov 2005)**

Police weren't surprised when they found crystal methamphetamine on a 26-year-old Edmonton man they arrested last week on 74 charges related to identity theft. The theft of credit cards and personal identification for use in bank and Internet fraud has become the signature of the meth culture. Over the past five years, crystal meth use and identity theft have exploded in tandem. Det. Bob Gauthier of the Edmonton city police drug section explains why.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?B23A1402C>

**34. Drug Runners Use Puerto Rico As Stepping Stone (AP, 7 Nov 2005)**

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - The cargo ship had just arrived from South America when U.S. federal agents boarded with sniffer dogs, zeroed in on a 20-foot-long steel oxygen tank and hauled it away. An X-ray showed it contained nearly two tons of cocaine. Using vessels ranging from small wooden launches to 140-foot cargo ships like the one agents raided at the Port of San Juan, traffickers are sending a wave of drugs into Puerto Rico. It has become a stepping stone to the lucrative mainland U.S. market, a place the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration now classifies as a "major Caribbean point of entry" for drugs. Traffickers love Puerto Rico because after their drugs arrive on the island, they can be hidden amid regular cargo and shipped onward, bypassing routine searches because Puerto Rico is part of the United States.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=82&sid=314113>

**35. Bahamians arrested by narcotics cops (RJR 94FM, 4 Nov 2005)**

Five Bahamians are among 10 persons arrested by the narcotics police in a major drug bust in Portland. The 10 were taken into custody after the narcotics police intercepted three motor vehicles and seized 400 pounds of ganja and four pounds of hash oil. It is reported that earlier this week, the narcotics police conducted a special operation in Anchovy when they intercepted the vehicles along the Anchovy main road. The vehicles were searched and the narcotics and boat fuel found. Investigators say the men were transporting narcotics to a waiting boat destined for the Bahamas.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rjr94fm.com/news/story.php?category=0&story=21148>

**36. Cayman Islands: Cocaine trade seriously dented (CaymanNetNews.com, 7 Nov 2005)**

The international fight against illegal drugs netted success last weekend when a British warship nabbed four men with more than US\$354 million worth of cocaine off the coast of Nicaragua. The Cayman Islands, which are midway between Central America and the US, and other Caribbean states have been used as drug transshipment points to North America and Europe. There have been a number of significant seizures of drugs here this year after cocaine and other controlled substances have washed up on the shores around the Islands. Recently some 100 Kgs of cocaine washed up in Pease Bay.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://caymannelnews.com/2005/11/961/trade.shtml>

**37. Jamaican gets 18 yrs for drug smuggling (RJR 94FM, 7 Nov 2005)**

A Jamaican member of a United Kingdom-based drug network, who attempted to smuggle cocaine into London in shampoo bottles, has been sentenced to 18 years. Thirty-one year old Christopher Llewelyn was arrested after more than 50 kilograms of liquid cocaine was found at four London airports. The drug is reported to have a street value of five million pounds. Llewelyn and five other members of the network pleaded guilty to conspiracy to import class "A" drugs. The judge ordered that Llewelyn should be deported after he served his sentence. The six persons were given sentences totalling 75 years.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rjr94fm.com/news/story.php?category=2&story=21187>

**38. Dominican Republic: Another major bust, over 400 kilos of cocaine seized (Dominican Today, 8 Nov 2005)**

SANTO DOMINGO.- In yet another major bust in just one week, the National Drugs Control Agency (DNCD) and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) seized 449 kilos of cocaine in the early morning hours today in several raids. Of the 449 kilos of cocaine, 442 were found in a parking lot of this city's Hispaniola hotel, and another part in an apartment whose location was not specified. The other seven kilos were seized in the Las Americas airport.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dominicantoday.com/app/article.aspx?id=6853>

**39. Soldier pleads guilty to role in Colombian cocaine smuggling ring (AP, 8 Nov 2005)**

A military intelligence soldier pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges that he was part of a drug smuggling ring that used military aircraft to ship cocaine into the United States from a U.S. base in Colombia. Staff Sgt. Victor J. Portales admitted his role in a smuggling ring as part of a plea agreement. Portales, a member of the 204th Military Intelligence Battalion based at Fort Bliss, was charged with conspiracy to import and distribute cocaine, unlawful importation and distribution of cocaine and another charge of misconduct related to the transport of about \$48,000 to Colombia to buy drugs.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.dentonrc.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D8DOGMEG0.html>

**40. Peru: Two tonnes of cocaine seized (Herald Sun, 9 Nov 2005)**

PERU'S anti-drug police have seized two tonnes of cocaine with a street value of at least \$US70 million (\$96 million), one of the biggest hauls in recent years in the Andean nation, police say. Police also arrested around eight men, including several Colombians and a Venezuelan, in a warehouse in the northern coastal city of Chiclayo. A police official who declined to be named said the cocaine was worth at least \$US70 million in the United States, "but probably much more, because this is pure cocaine". The capture takes Peru's total drug haul so far this year to a record 10 tonnes, police said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?I17A2302C>

**41. UK: Cocaine traces found in River Thames (Agence France-Presse, 8 Nov 2005)**

LONDON: So much cocaine is being used in London that traces of the white powdered narcotic can be detected in the River Thames, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper said. Citing scientific research, which it had commissioned, it said an estimated two kilogrammes of cocaine, or 80,000 lines, spill into the river every day after it has passed through users' bodies and sewage treatment plants. It extrapolated that 150,000 lines of the illegal drug are snorted in the British capital every day, which is 15 times higher than the official figure given by the Home Office. "Because of the long-term complications of cocaine use, we are looking at a healthcare time bomb," clinical toxicologist John Henry was quoted as saying.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?U3A314F1C>

**42. U.S., Russia Increase Cooperation Against Drug Trafficking (Dept. of State, 7 Nov 2005)**

The chiefs of the American and Russian drug-control agencies signed a memorandum of mutual understanding (MMU) November 2 aimed at enhancing cooperation against illegal drug trafficking worldwide.

The MMU “provides a formal basis for enhanced coordination between our two agencies, as we seek to assist the Russian Federal Drug Control Service [FSKN] towards our common goal of identifying and dismantling international drug trafficking organizations,” said Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Administrator Karen Tandy.

Tandy joined FSKN Director Viktor Cherkesov in signing the agreement at DEA headquarters near Washington.

Following is the DEA announcement:

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

November 2, 2005

DEA, Russian Officials Sign Historic Memorandum  
Pledge International Support to Combat Illegal Drug Trafficking

Arlington, Virginia – Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Administrator Karen P. Tandy and the Russian Federation Director of the Federal Drug Control Service (FSKN), Viktor V. Cherkesov, today signed a Memorandum of Mutual Understanding (MMU) at DEA Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, to express cooperation in combating illegal worldwide drug trafficking.

This agreement between the United States (U.S.) and the Russian Federation recognizes the need for international cooperation in combating illegal drugs and their precursor chemicals. These cooperative efforts include intelligence sharing, training, and assistance in disrupting and dismantling large criminal organizations that affect the drug trade in both the U.S. and Russia.

“There are nearly 5,000 miles and eight time zones between DEA and FSKN Headquarters, but in both our countries, we feel and fight the same ravages of drug abuse,” DEA Administrator Tandy said. “In the global fight against drugs, the challenges we see in the U.S. are often identical to those faced in Russia. This Memorandum of Mutual Understanding provides a formal basis for enhanced coordination between our two agencies, as we seek to assist the Russian Federal Drug Control Service towards our common goal of identifying and dismantling international drug trafficking organizations.”

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

## **CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

### **43. US: Landmark arrest of spammer (South China Morning Post, 5 Nov 2005)**

Los Angeles - US authorities have arrested a man for allegedly hijacking thousands of computers to launch spam attacks, in what officials say is the first prosecution of its kind. Among the computers that Jeanson Ancheta, 20, is accused of infecting with malicious

software are those at the Weapons Division of the sensitive US Naval Air Warfare Centre in China Lake, California. He allegedly infected "armies" of computers, turning them into "bots" that were then used to launch destructive attacks on servers or send huge quantities of spam, or unwanted e-mails. Ancheta, who lives in the Los Angeles suburb of Downey, is a "botmaster" who controlled "botnets", or armies of computers hooked up to the internet, the US Attorney's office in Los Angeles alleged on Thursday. Ancheta allegedly wrote and spread a code known as Trojan Horse, which caused the computers to become part of the bot network without the knowledge or consent of their owners.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.asiamedia.ucla.edu/article-us.asp?parentid=32931>

#### **44. Audit finds gaps in FEMA's database security (GovExec.com, by Chris Strohm, 8 Nov 2005)**

An audit released Monday found weaknesses in a central database used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, meaning that sensitive information has been susceptible to hackers and attacks. The audit, which was redacted for public release, concluded that the Homeland Security Department's Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate failed to establish adequate or effective database security measures for its information technology network, which is called the National Emergency Management Information System. NEMIS is used by FEMA for incident tracking and coordination; allows individuals and small businesses to apply for assistance; and processes state requests for funding of hazard mitigation projects. Auditors found at least 56 vulnerabilities, including a lack of effective procedures for granting, monitoring and removing user access. The report also cited the need for contingency training and testing to respond to an attack, and the need to provide system administrators with specialized security training.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=32739&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=32739&dcn=e_gvet)

#### **45. Pizza chain caught without fully baked security (c|net, 7 Nov 2005, Contributed by Rick Forno)**

Papa John's has beefed up security for its Web-based e-mail system after the pizza chain learned that internal e-mail and customer data had been exposed. The leak at the Louisville, Ky.-based pizza chain made internal corporate e-mail and thousands of customer comments available to anyone with a Web browser. The customer comments were submitted between Sept. 29 and Nov. 7 and included names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of customers. "It looks like there is no password protection on Papa John's internal Web e-mail system," said Richard Smith, an Internet privacy expert who reviewed the issue at the request of CNET News.com. "This sort of Web site privacy leak happens more than it should."

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?B2A23202C>

#### **46. Grokster's illegal downloading service shuts down (AP, 8 Nov 2005)**

LOS ANGELES - The popular Internet file sharing service Grokster Ltd. may be going the way of Napster. In a surprise settlement with the recording and movie industry

announced Monday, Grokster agreed to shut down its music and movie swapping software and pay \$50 million in damages. Grokster executives indicated they plan to launch a legal, fee-based "Grokster 3G" service before year's end under a new parent company, believed to be Mashboxx of Virginia Beach, Va.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/TechNews/TopPhoto/2005/11/08/1298019-ap.html>

**47. Image-handling flaws put Windows PCs at risk (c|net, 8 Nov 2005, Contributed by Rick Forno)**

Three security flaws in the way Windows handles certain graphics files could create an opening for spyware and Trojan horse attacks, Microsoft has warned. The vulnerabilities relate to how the operating system renders the Windows Metafile (WMF) and Enhanced Metafile (EMF) image formats, Microsoft said Tuesday in its MS05-053 security bulletin. Two of them could allow a remote intruder to gain complete control over a Windows PC, Microsoft warned in the bulletin, the sole one in its monthly patch cycle. Microsoft has tagged the security bulletin "critical," its most serious rating. The software maker urges Windows users to install the security update that accompanied the alert as soon as possible to protect against any attacks via the security bugs.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?O3EC6202C>

## COUNTERFEIT

**48. Product Piracy in China Growing (AP, 7 Nov 2005)**

SHANGHAI, China - Illegal copying of music, movies and other goods by Chinese product pirates is rising despite official promises to stamp it out, U.S. officials said Monday, calling for stronger enforcement of intellectual property laws. Almost two-thirds of all seizures of fake products by U.S. Customs officials come from China, far more than any other country, and despite stronger laws and top-level pledges to crack down the problem has been getting worse, the officials said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T2B325F1C>

## RESOURCES

**49. A Glance at Europe's Immigrant Communities (AP, 7 Nov 2005)**

A look at the largest immigrant communities in the European Union, according to data by EU statistical agency Eurostat. The agency's statistics date from 2002 to 2004.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=82&sid=314123>

## OPPORTUNITIES

**50. NC: Contingency Planning Assoc.'s Business Preparedness Annual Symposium  
Nov. 11, 2005**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Atlantic hurricanes, tornados in Indiana, and disasters elsewhere clearly demonstrate the need for vastly improved disaster preparedness by businesses, organizations and individuals.

Several of the nations experts in business continuity and disaster preparedness headline the this year's Contingency Planning Association of the Carolinas (CPAC) 8th Annual Symposium on December 2, 2005, on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Among the featured speakers are John Copenhaver, president and CEO of the Disaster Recovery Institute; Doug Hoell, N.C. Director of Emergency Management; and George Haddow, research scientist and adjunct professor at the Institute of Crises, Disaster and Risk Management, George Washington University. The day-long "how to" symposium - "Managing the Crisis: Threats, Media and Tactics," is designed to help businesses and organizations of any size better prepare to survive unplanned business interruptions.

Sessions include

- "Mock Disaster Exercise" led by SunGard Availability Services
- "Focus, Fold, or Freeze - Understanding and Mitigating Crisis Dysfunction," Ted Buffington, CEO, Achievement By Design, LLC
- "Alternative Emergency Communications Options," Phil Drake, The Charlotte Observer, and Elaine Horack, PCA International
- "Comprehensive Threat/Risk Analysis," Charles Thomas, CACH International, Ltd., Co.
- "Managing the Media - Protecting Your Image," Ellison Clary, Ellison Clary Comprehensive Public Relations
- "Integrating Internal Disaster Recovery Center Solutions with Vendor DRC Solutions," Walter Hutto, Palmetto Health
- "Terrorism and the Private Sector," Dr. Robert Chandler, Pepperdine University

Before November 11, registration is \$125 for CPAC members or other business continuity planning groups, with appropriate discount code, and \$150 for non-members. After November 11, registration increases \$25. Registration and exhibitor and sponsor opportunity information may be found at

<http://www.cpaccarolinas.org/Symposium05/Symposium05.html>.

## **FULL REPORTS**

### **51. Chertoff Offers Multiyear Plan To Secure U.S. Borders - Goal is to choke off illegal crossings on land, sea borders (By Merle D. Kellerhals, Jr., Washington File Staff Writer, 3 Nov 2005)**

Washington - The United States has set a goal to catch and remove every person who crosses the nation's 7,000 miles of shared borders illegally, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff says.

"Simply stated, our goal is to gain control of our borders," Chertoff said in a speech in Houston November 2.

"I define control to mean that we will have an extremely high probability of detecting, responding to and interdicting illegal crossings of our borders."

Chertoff introduced the Secure Border Initiative, which represents a transformational approach to securing U.S. borders from terrorism, but also to reducing illegal migration.

"Gaining control of our borders requires focusing on all aspects of the problem -- deterrence, detection, apprehension, detention and removal," Chertoff said in remarks to the Houston Forum, a nonprofit educational group.

Coupled with the border initiative, he said, is the need for Congress to change current immigration laws. That would include the creation of a temporary worker program that would allow legal, regulated workers into the United States to work while still preserving national security.

The Bush administration long has supported the temporary worker program's concept as an effective deterrent to illegal aliens entering the country solely to find high-paying jobs. (See [related article](#).)

The initiative is designed to enable Homeland Security to achieve operational control of both the northern border with Canada and the southern border with Mexico within five years and to secure the nation's ports of entry, he said.

Key elements of the initiative include:

- More federal agents to patrol the borders, secure the ports of entry for people and cargo and to enforce immigration laws;
- Expanded and more efficient detection and removal capabilities to eliminate the practice of "catch and release" currently used;
- A comprehensive and systemic upgrading of border-security technology that would include air patrols, expanded use of unmanned aerial vehicles similar to those currently used by the U.S. armed forces and new-generation detection technology;
- Increased investment in infrastructure improvements at the border to provide additional barriers to block illegal border crossings; and
- Greatly increased interior enforcement of U.S. immigration laws, including more robust worksite enforcement to capture illegal aliens.

Chertoff said that since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States, the federal government has increased border security spending by \$2.8 billion, a 60 percent

increase. When President Bush on October 18 signed into law the Homeland Security budget, it included more than \$7 billion for Customs and Border Protection, he added.

The fiscal year 2006 budget for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement increased 9 percent over 2005 levels to \$3.9 billion, he said.

"Under our Secure Border Initiative, we will field the most effective mix of current and next-generation technology and infrastructure with a corresponding mix of appropriately trained personnel," he said.

"Our goal is to ultimately have the capacity to integrate multiple 'state of the art' systems and sensor arrays into one interoperable and comprehensive detection system."

Chertoff, conceding that today's problem of illegal migration has been years in the making and the solution will not happen rapidly, said the United States "must act thoughtfully and systematically -- but also quickly."

Cooperation between the United States and Canada, and between the United States and Mexico, has been substantially improved through the Security and Prosperity Partnership unveiled earlier this year. It has led to success in stopping smugglers and those trafficking in humans, he said. (See [related article](#).)

The [full text](#) of Chertoff's remarks and a [fact sheet](#) on the Secure Border Initiative are available on the Department of Homeland Security Web site.

For additional information on U.S. efforts to secure its southern border, see [The U.S. and Mexico: Border/Migration Issues](#).

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

## **52. U.S. Congress Studies Details of Flu Plan (By Charlene Porter, Washington File Staff Writer, 8 Nov 2005)**

Washington – Top U.S. health officials have made several trips to the U.S. Capitol in recent days, attempting to answer reams of questions from members of Congress about the national plan for influenza pandemic preparedness unveiled by the Bush administration November 2.

Lawmakers are inquiring about the details of the plan issued by the Department of Health and Human Services, but it appears many clearly are focused on the big picture – pandemic influenza is an imminent threat.

"This is serious business, even deadly business," said Representative Joe Barton, a Republican from Texas, as he convened a hearing of the House Energy and Commerce Committee November 8.

The Bush administration has been working for weeks to educate lawmakers and the public about the pandemic threat, and the possibility that widespread outbreaks of avian influenza in Asia could mutate into an influenza strain easily spread among humans. Those are the conditions that could lead to rapidly spreading, contagious disease around the world as influenza pandemics have done three times over the last century.

The administration has worked to put this issue on the public agenda, but Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt also is trying to avoid inflaming the public discussion.

“Our rhetoric needs to inspire preparation and not panic,” Leavitt said.

What the national pandemic plan says about the responsibilities of states and local governments, and the costs to those entities is a significant concern for lawmakers who must return to their home districts and answer those questions from constituents.

Members of Congress from Michigan, Massachusetts, Colorado, Tennessee and other states said their state governments will be unable to make the investments in flu preparedness that the federal plan says they should. Failure to recognize that could undermine preparedness overall, lawmakers said.

“Rather than making sure we have plans everywhere, we have to make sure the plans are going to work,” said Representative Diana DeGette, a Democrat from Colorado.

The more than \$7 billion plan outlined by President Bush November 1 earmarks about \$1 billion for building a stockpile of anti-viral drugs, notably the medicine oseltamivir phosphate – also known by the brand name Tamiflu – which has been effective in helping some of the more than 120 people who have contracted the viral strain now primarily circulating among birds in Asia. (See [related article](#).)

“We need to make sure we don’t fall into the trap of saying that stockpiles of Tamiflu equals preparedness,” said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), also testifying at the November 8 hearing. “From a scientific standpoint, that is not the case.”

Testifying at Leavitt’s side, Fauci said that if pandemic breaks out, it will be caused by a virus different from H5N1. The effectiveness of Tamiflu against this still unknown viral strain currently cannot be known.

The same is true for vaccines. NIAID has a vaccine candidate under study that has offered protection against H5N1, but whether it will protect against a viral strain that evolves from H5N1 will not be known until the new virus appears.

What is known, Leavitt said, is that international surveillance is the “first line of defense” and the best hope for preventing pandemic. Working with other international partners, the United States is hoping that the emergence of a viral strain capable of moving from

human to human with ease will be spotted early, and contained, averting widespread human disease.

Leavitt is likely to spend more time answering questions from Congress about the pandemic plan, and he acknowledges that lawmakers raise good points that still must be address. Influenza preparedness, he says, is a work in progress.

“We’re better prepared today than we were yesterday,” Leavitt said. “We’ll be better prepared tomorrow than we are today.”

A delegation from the United States has been in Geneva November 7-9 working with partner nations and the international human and animal health organizations to draw up specific plans on surveillance of both animal and human disease. (See [related article](#).)

For more information on U.S. and international efforts to combat avian influenza, see [Bird Flu](#).

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

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