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

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*CABLE Gram* Volume 2 Issue 71

18 November 2005 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

Welcome to the many new readers onboard today! As you'll learn, the *CABLE Gram* comes in two parts (1) this email, listing the stories covered in this issue and providing a direct link to the originating source should you want to go right to that story; and (2) a PDF document that contains the listing of stories and then a synopsis of each. We publish in this manner for your ease and speed of reading.

Another note, be sure to learn from the experiences of other states and organizations. You all have access to each other through your professional channels, if you see a successful operation conducted by one state/organization – give them a call and ask for a hand! Why reinvent the wheel when you don't have to?

Also, if there are certain search terms you would like me to add to my nightly forays into the open source world – please let me know. Just send an email and in the subject line please type “CABLE Gram research request”.

I've been raiding the RAND Website for more publications that may assist you in your professional endeavors. RAND is gracious enough to provide them for download at no charge – take advantage! Also we have several reports for the Foreign Military Studies Office regarding border security.

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69. Operation Secure Mexico, by Thomas S. Davidson II, CW4, MI, FMSO-JRIC Analyst, Foreign Military Studies Office, June 2005
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72. Exemplary Practices in Public Health Preparedness, Terri Tanielian, Karen Ricci, Michael A. Stoto, David J. Dausey, Lois M. Davis, Sarah Myers, Stuart Olmsted, Henry H. Willis, TR-239-DHHS, 2005
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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.

Issues covered in the *CABLE Gram* include: Homeland Defense, Homeland Security, Terrorism, Federal Law Enforcement, First Responders, Money Laundering, Identity Theft, NBC Weapons, Cybercrimes, Smuggling, Narco Trafficking, Hazardous Materials and other related topics.

We search the topics and Websites that you request, so it is important for you to provide feedback. We are in our infancy and the *CABLE Gram* will be as useful as you help make it. Please let us know the topics and keywords that will assist you in your professional endeavors. Send all comments and suggestions to [zhi@cablegram.org](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. Senators Threaten to Hold Up Patriot Act (AP, 17 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - A bipartisan group of senators told congressional leaders Thursday they will try to block reauthorization of the Patriot Act to protest the elimination of Senate-pushed protections against "unnecessary and intrusive government surveillance" in a House-Senate compromise. "If further changes are not made, we will work to stop this bill from becoming law," GOP Sens. Larry Craig, John Sununu and Lisa Murkowski and Democratic Sens. Dick Durbin, Russ Feingold and Ken Salazar said in a letter to the Senate Judiciary and Intelligence committees. This came a day after House-Senate negotiators crafted a tentative compromise to make most provisions of the existing law permanent, and set new seven-year sunsets for rules on wiretapping, obtaining business records under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) and new standards for monitoring "lone wolf" terrorists who may be operating independent of a foreign agent or power.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=55899>

## **2. ICE and CBP merger talk gets contentious (FCW, 16 Nov 2005)**

Merging the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) unit with the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) bureau would disrupt both organizations and set the Homeland Security Department back a year, DHS' new assistant secretary for policy said this week. Stewart Baker, testifying Nov. 15 for the first time since his confirmation, repeatedly told members of a House subcommittee that an inspector general's report recommending the merger of the two bureaus would come at a staggering cost. He said the IG did not consider the consequences of a merger. But Robert Ashbaugh, the department's assistant IG for inspections and special reviews, said Baker is wrong. Ashbaugh said the change would benefit the department. He said the IG recommended the merger to address problems that ICE and CBP are having in coordinating detention and removal activities, investigations, and intelligence gathering and sharing.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article91458-11-16-05-Web>

## **3. Democratic Substitute Introduced During Committee Markup of Border Security Bill (PRNewswire, 16 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - House Homeland Security Committee Democrats, led by Ranking Member Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), today offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute to the Republicans' "Border Security and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2005" (H.R. 4312), which the Committee is considering today. The Democratic substitute takes concrete steps to ensure the Department of Homeland Security produces a comprehensive land border security strategy that addresses specific, longstanding gaps in our nation's border security. "We need to give the Department of Homeland Security the personnel, equipment and training its employees need to secure our borders," said Rep. Thompson. "This amendment meets those needs in a comprehensive way. While the Committee's bill is a good first step, it just doesn't go as far as this amendment." The Democratic substitute includes a proposal to coordinate Northern and Southern border protection while maintaining the free flow of travelers and trade. It also holds the Department accountable to the Congress by requiring it to fulfill critical reporting obligations.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?T1CF53D2C>

**4. Chairman King Introduces Border Security Bill (PRNewswire, 15 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - Last night, House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Peter T. King (R-NY) introduced H.R. 4312, The Border Security and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2005. The bipartisan bill takes steps to enhance security along America's borders and ensure the removal of all aliens who attempt to enter the United States illegally. Subcommittee for Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection, and Cybersecurity Chairman Dan Lungren (R-CA) and Subcommittee Ranking Member Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) are original cosponsors of the legislation. "The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11th made it clear that our nation must be more aggressive in preventing terrorists from entering the United States," King said. "This bill recognizes the need to bolster our border security capabilities by authorizing more funding for Border Patrol agents, utilizing physical barriers and state-of-the-art technologies, and promoting international policies that will help deter illegal immigration and protect valid claims of asylum.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?A35A21A2C>

**5. House to take up immigration measures (By Emily Heil, CongressDaily, 17 Nov 2005)**

House leaders are planning to move two separate immigration bills to the floor before the end of the session, pressing ahead with a plan to shore up the nation's borders without taking up changes sought by business interests and the White House to establish a guestworker program. Homeland Security Chairman Peter King, R-N.Y., late Monday introduced legislation that would beef up border surveillance and control, as well as end the "catch and release" program by requiring all illegal immigrants to be detained. Judiciary Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., is expected to introduce his own immigration legislation soon.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=32825&dcn=e\\_gvet](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=32825&dcn=e_gvet)

**6. Lawmaker: Terror war spilling across border - Concern rising following arrest of al-Qaida suspect in Mexico (WorldNetDaily.com , 16 Nov 2005)**

A U.S. lawmaker says elements of the war on terror are now spilling across the nation's southwestern border, and that colleagues he's spoken to who have seen the problem first-hand, as he has, say they felt safer "during trips to Iraq than they would have in a pickup truck on our southern border." Rep. John A. Culberson, R-Texas, also says there has been an increase in apprehensions of so-called "special interest aliens," or SIAs – aliens from countries where al-Qaida is known to be in operation – along the U.S.-Mexico border, and that American law enforcement and intelligence agencies are aware of it.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE\\_ID=47401](http://worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=47401)

**7. TSA Gives Truckers a Load of Precautions (Washington Post, 15 Nov 2005)**

*Stephen Russell*, chief executive of the *Celadon Group*, an Indianapolis trucking company, says he understands why federal regulators want to take special precautions in

a post-9/11 world by making new rules that check whether truck drivers are a threat to homeland security. "We are well aware that certain explosives could be used to take down a building," he told a recent *House Homeland Security subcommittee* oversight hearing, speaking for the *American Trucking Associations*. But he noted that explosives on the government's hazardous materials list might also include large shipments of air-bag components or emergency flares, which pose no significant security risk. Likewise, Russell added, products such as soft-drink syrup, batteries, matches and paint, which also are on the hazardous list, "do not represent any more threat to our homeland than carrying a truckload of bread."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C14A32A2C>

#### **8. U.S. air cargo still vulnerable to terrorist attack, report says (AP, 16 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The Bush administration has yet to follow through on a two-year-old plan to find and plug holes in air cargo security and doesn't even have a schedule for completing it, according to congressional investigators. A report by the Government Accountability Office being released Wednesday says the Transportation Security Administration won't be able to protect cargo-carrying planes from terrorists unless it understands where they're vulnerable. "According to officials, limited resources and competing priorities have delayed agency efforts to conduct such an assessment," said the GAO report, which was obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press. The GAO is Congress' investigative and auditing arm.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/TRAVEL/11/16/air.cargo.security.ap/index.html>

#### **9. Senate panel backs terror insurance bill (Reuters, 16 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Senate Banking Committee on Wednesday approved a bill to extend a program of federal guarantees to cover losses from terrorist attacks. The legislation would extend the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 but reduce the scope of the program by, for example, cutting the number of insurance lines covered. The bill still awaits approval by the full Senate. On Wednesday morning a House committee is expected to consider a separate bill to extend the act. Without an extension, the program will expire Dec. 31.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://money.cnn.com/2005/11/16/news/economy/terror\\_insurance.reut/index.htm](http://money.cnn.com/2005/11/16/news/economy/terror_insurance.reut/index.htm)

#### **10. More Suspect Yucca Mtn. E-Mails Said Found (AP, 16 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - There is more evidence of questionable work on the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste dump in Nevada, an Energy Department inspector general's report said Wednesday. Criminal investigations already were under way into a batch of e-mails the Energy Department disclosed in March that suggest government scientists falsified data on the project. The inspector general uncovered more e-mails that raise new questions about work on the project. "The office of inspector general found e-mails by other authors that identified possible conditions adverse to quality at Yucca," the report said. "However, these e-mails had not been identified by Yucca personnel as requiring further review." One e-mail cited by the report says that the office of quality assurance "just

discovered that (quality assurance) software requirements were being ignored." Another says: "We may want to backdate the notebook to when we started putting things together."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=5802>

#### **11. Katrina Evacuees Worry About FEMA Deadline (AP, 17 Nov 2005)**

DALLAS - Calvin Jamison and nine relatives do not like living in the two Dallas hotel rooms they have shared since Hurricane Katrina devastated their hometown of New Orleans. "It's cramped. It's stressful. It's bad for your nutrition," Jamison says. "All you do is sleep all day. You can't really do nothing else." Now, they have added stress: a Dec. 1 government deadline to find more permanent housing, something they have been trying to do for two months.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=80&sid=304259>

#### **12. United States, Canada Reach Open-Skies Aviation Agreement - Pact is expected to take effect formally in September 2006 (Dept. of State, 15 Nov 2005)**

The United States and Canada have reached a full Open Skies aviation agreement that permits unrestricted service by the airlines of each country to, from and beyond the other's territory, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). In a November 11 press release, the DOT announced that the agreement had been reached after three days of bilateral talks in Washington. "Open Skies between the United States and Canada will mean better service at lower prices for the passengers and shippers of both countries," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K56A23A2C>

#### **13. Judges Reject Cell-Phone Tracking (WIRED.com, 17 Nov 2005, Contributed by Rick Forno)**

For the third time in recent months, a federal judge has balked at allowing government investigators to track a citizen via cell phone in real time without agents showing probable cause. Andrew J. Peck, a magistrate judge with the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, asked the Justice Department to clarify its arguments after learning that a Long Island magistrate judge initially denied a similar request in August. All three cell-tracking requests accompanied more traditional requests to capture the dialing information of incoming and outgoing calls. Those orders only require investigators to certify that the information is likely relevant to an ongoing investigation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wired.com/news/privacy/0,1848,69598,00.html>

#### **14. Designer Donates Sneakers for Border Run (AP, 17 Nov 2005) – What a wild story!**

SAN DIEGO - The high-top sneakers cost \$215 at a San Diego boutique, but the designer is giving them away to migrants before they cross to this side of the U.S.-Mexico border. These are no ordinary shoes. A compass and flashlight dangle from one shoelace. The

pocket in the tongue is for money or pain relievers. A rough map of the border region is printed on a removable insole. They are red, white and green, the colors of the Mexican flag. On the back ankle, a drawing of Mexico's patron saint of migrants. On this side of the border, the shoes sit in art collections or the closets of well-heeled sneaker connoisseurs. On the other side, in Tijuana, it's a utilitarian affair: Immigrants to be are happy to have the sturdy, lightweight shoes for the hike \_ or dash \_ into the United States. Their designer is Judi Werthein, an Argentine artist who moved to New York in 1997 \_ legally, she notes.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=80&sid=317418>

**15. Avian Flu's Wake-Up Call to Business - Companies aren't making adequate preparations to deal with a possible pandemic, says the Bush Administration's point man on the issue (BusinessWeek.com, 17 Nov 2005)**

The business community is "not adequately prepared" for a possible avian flu pandemic, says Secretary of Health & Human Services Michael Leavitt. The Bush Administration's point person on this issue, Leavitt recently discussed the corporate community's slow response to a possible pandemic -- an outbreak of disease that occurs over a wide geographic area that affects a large proportion of the population -- with *BusinessWeek* Washington Outlook editor Richard S. Dunham. Edited excerpts of their conversation follow.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.businessweek.com/bwdaily/dnflash/nov2005/nf20051117\\_0574\\_db008.htm](http://www.businessweek.com/bwdaily/dnflash/nov2005/nf20051117_0574_db008.htm)

**16. Health Canada looking at Tamiflu data after reports of children deaths in Japan (Pravda.ru, 18 Nov 2005)**

Health Canada is going over the safety data for the anti-flu drug Tamiflu after reports of a number of deaths children in Japan. Health Canada spokesman Jirina Vlk said Thursday such a study is always undertaken when there are reports of potential adverse reactions to a drug. Health Canada's U.S. counterpart, the Food And Drug Administration, said Thursday it was also studying the deaths of 12 Japanese children who'd taken the drug. And the regulator termed "concerning" reports of 32 psychiatric events among children who took Tamiflu. But the U.S. agency said it was difficult to tell whether use of Tamiflu played a role in any of these events.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://newsfromrussia.com/society/2005/11/18/67935.html>

**17. China hunts criminals with cards (BBC, 16 Nov 2005)**

Police in central China have begun handing out packs of playing cards featuring most-wanted criminals. Half a million packs were being distributed in the province of Henan, according to state media. The US forces did the same thing to round up members of Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/4442274.stm>

## STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

### **18. CA: First Responders Conduct Bioterrorism Drill At Sports Arena (NBC4.TV, 17 Nov 2005)**

LOS ANGELES - First responders conducted a bioterrorism drill Thursday at the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, simulating a biological attack or pandemic. County health officials, local politicians, police and firefighters were all involved in testing the county's Cities Readiness Initiative Plan. "The goal of this exercise is to test Los Angeles County's response to this challenging scenario and provide an opportunity for county and city agencies and our local jurisdiction partners to see how they would respond if faced with a biological terrorism attack or with a pandemic flu outbreak," said Dr. Jonathan Fielding, public health director. In the event of a pandemic in Los Angeles County, hospitals could provide up to 5,000 beds before needing help from the state and federal government, and medication could be distributed to 500 people an hour in the event of a pandemic flu or anthrax outbreak, public health officials said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nbc4.tv/news/5348556/detail.html>

### **19. Officials Detonate Car Bomb During Terror Drill (10News.com, 17 Nov 2005)**

DEL MAR, Calif. - During a simulated terrorism attack, the San Diego County Office Of Emergency Services blew up a vehicle at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, 10News reported. The drill was designed to test all respondents -- firefighters, law enforcement, FBI, SWAT and paramedics -- as if there was a real terror attack. Respondents acted under the scenerio that a car bomb exploded and released chemicals, outside the Del Mar Fairgrounds, instantly killing 25 people and injuring more than 125. Officials responded in real time to the explosion.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.10news.com/news/5331421/detail.html?subid=22100481&qs=1:bp=t>

### **20. MD: Baltimore May Monitor Stop-Frisk Tactic (AP, 17 Nov 2005)**

BALTIMORE - The mayor called for better police record-keeping and training after a newspaper reported that officers stopped and frisked citizens thousands of times but reported only 11 such stops to state authorities in the past year. The report in Sunday's Baltimore Sun also said blacks appear to be stopped more often than whites. While saying that he supports the use of "stop and frisk," Mayor Martin O'Malley said Wednesday that police must comply with state law, which requires that a report on each stop be sent to the Maryland State Police to ensure the stops are legally justified.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=80&sid=317497>

### **21. NJ: Ex-honcho of burglary gang faces new charges (NorthJersey.com, 17 Nov 2005)**

NEWARK - A former leader of the notorious "James Bond Gang" of burglars was back at it - this time swiping more than \$1 million worth of jewelry, furs, cash and electronics from homes across the tri-state area - before investigators caught up with him, authorities said Wednesday. Bergen County native Drew Black, 36, is charged with breaking into

more than a dozen homes in a Greenwich, Conn., neighborhood and another in Franklin Lakes. Federal authorities said they also suspect his involvement in similar break-ins in New York, Maryland, Massachusetts and Nevada.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?R1D226E2C>

**22. NJ: 'Enforcer' for smuggling ring implicates ringleaders (AP, 16 Nov 2005)**

NEWARK, N.J. - A self-described enforcer for a ring that smuggled young Honduran women and girls into the United States and forced them to work entertaining men in a bar pleaded guilty to conspiracy Wednesday and implicated the alleged leaders of the operation. Xochil Nectalina Rosales Martinez, 29, admitted in U.S. District Court that she was instructed to keep the smuggled women in line, and to beat them if necessary. In return, Martinez said she and her husband, who were smuggled into the U.S. illegally, were given free rent and food at an apartment in Guttenberg from November 2004 to January 2005. She agreed to testify against others in the case, which involves 19 women and girls as young as 14 who were lured from Honduras with promises of restaurant jobs in New Jersey. But once they got here, prosecutors say, they were forced to work up to seven days a week at a bar in Union City "to solicit male customers at the bar and encourage them to buy them beers to make money with which to repay their smuggling debt" according to court documents.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Z3BF25D2C>

**23. NC: Public health surveillance system unveiled (AP, 16 Nov 2005)**

RALEIGH, N.C. - An electronic surveillance system unveiled Wednesday will monitor hospital emergency room data for early signs of bioterrorism attacks or disease outbreaks. Nearly half of the 113 hospitals in North Carolina with 24-hour emergency rooms will submit information to the system. The system will submit the confidential data to the state Division of Public Health. The company that produced the system's software says the system should quickly detect symptoms that suggest the presence of anthrax or other bioterrorism agents, as well as infectious outbreaks, without relying on the reports of health professionals.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K2C212E2C>

**24. RI: Hazardous-Materials Teams Respond To Supermarket (TurnTo10.com, 15 Nov 2005)**

WESTERLY, R.I. - Hazardous-materials teams responded to a Shaw's supermarket in Westerly on Tuesday. Ten people were treated at Westerly hospital after complaining of skin and eye irritations. The commotion at the Shaw's supermarket on Route 1 began at about 10 a.m. Tuesday. Ten employees working in the register area at the front of the store reported skin and eye irritations. A call was made to 911 and the store was immediately evacuated. The 10 employees were decontaminated and transported to the hospital. The rest of the employees along with those shopping in the store at the time were isolated until the HazMat team found out what caused the irritations.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.turnto10.com/news/5330379/detail.html>

**25. TX: 8 people accused of smuggling girls for prostitution (Houston Chronicle, 15 Nov 2005)**

The promise of legitimate jobs was used to lure girls and young women to Houston from Central and South America, federal authorities said Monday. Rape, beatings — and the threat of even worse — were used to force them into prostitution once they were here, investigators said. The U.S. Attorney's Office accused eight Houston residents of smuggling girls and young women here to work as prostitutes in local bars. The group is the second alleged international sex-trafficking ring targeted in the past two months by the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance, a task force of local and federal agencies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/metropolitan/3461167>

**26. TX: UTSA opens new biotech lab (Express-News Staff Writer, 15 Nov 2005)**

At a time when health threats and weapons of war often can't be seen by the human eye, scientists have become key players in America's homeland defense. So when officials opened the doors Monday of a new \$10.6 million laboratory building at the University of Texas at San Antonio, emphasis was not so much on its boost to the economy, but more of a hope that it'll save lives. In a hometown appearance, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, predicted that research at the new Margaret Batts Tobin Laboratory Building "could well crack the code for the next threat" to Americans, be it airborne bacteria, fungal illness or infectious disease, such as anthrax.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?A3AF25D2C>

**27. VA: Fellow Republicans, Open Your Doors (New York Times, Opinion Piece by Linda Chavez, 17 Nov 2005)**

Purcellville, Va. - REPUBLICAN candidates hoping to make illegal immigration a central issue in next year's Congressional elections and the 2008 presidential race should consider the results of the Virginia governor's contest.

The Republican candidate, Jerry Kilgore, tried to tap into sentiment against illegal aliens by running advertisements that featured grainy video of border arrests and Hispanic men waiting in line while an announcer accused his Democratic opponent, Tim Kaine, of favoring "taxpayer benefits for illegal immigrants." In the last weeks of the race, Mr. Kilgore regularly worked the theme into his campaign speeches, especially in Northern Virginia, home to most of the state's immigrant population, legal and illegal.

But on Election Day, immigration failed to galvanize voters, and Mr. Kilgore lost by six percentage points, coming up short even in reliably conservative areas like Loudoun County, where I live. No doubt other missteps, including harshly negative ads on his opponent's position on the death penalty, contributed to Mr. Kilgore's defeat. But clearly, immigrant bashing can cut both ways in an election.

Northern Virginia is home to about 200,000 illegal aliens. Jobs are plentiful, many of them good-paying ones in construction. Statewide unemployment is at 3.5 percent, lower than the 5 percent national average; but Northern Virginia is even lower at 2.5 percent. Legal immigrants in the area outnumber illegal ones by more than 2 to 1 (about the same proportion as they do nationally), but both groups have helped transform the region's economy into one of the most robust in the nation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/17/opinion/17chavez.html>

**28. WI: The challenge: The Meth-identity theft connection (Burnett County Sentinel, 16 Nov 2005)**

If you were asked which crime trend — meth or identity theft — posed the most pressing threat to Wisconsin citizens, would you be surprised to learn that there is a connection between them? Unfortunately, it's true. In response to the growing methamphetamine problem, the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Meth Initiative has joined the front line of action in the fight against meth manufacture, use and addiction. This year we held meth summits in communities throughout Wisconsin, bringing together local law enforcement, health officials and educators, to discuss ways to address this problem that threatens our schools, our neighborhoods, and our environment. We are working to implement solutions now, and to meet the next new challenges.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L28F16D2C>

**GANG ACTIVITY**

**29. CA: Gang members allegedly threaten to kill officers, eat dog (San Mateo County's Daily Journal, 17 Nov 2005)**

Two members of the Polynesian gang "Baby Gangsters" are in custody after allegedly throwing a beer bottle at a San Bruno police car, threatening to kill the officers and eat their police canine earlier this week. Christopher Faiva, 21, and Fakaosi Talaker, 19, pleaded not guilty to three counts of threatening great bodily injury, three counts of resisting arrest, promoting a street gang and misdemeanor assault. They return to court Nov. 28 for a preliminary hearing to see if they'll stand trial. Faiva, who has a prior record, remains in custody in lieu of \$100,000 and Talaker is in custody in lieu of \$75,000 bond. If ultimately convicted, they face roughly six years in prison, said Chief Deputy District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article\\_preview.php?id=51158](http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?id=51158)

**30. CA: Gang Task Force Reports Encouraging Numbers (KBSW, 15 Nov 2005)**

SALINAS, Calif. - The Monterey County Board of Supervisors will get a report Tuesday night on the progress of the Monterey County Gang Task Force. Since April, the task forces has accounted for nearly 400 arrests, more than 1,300 traffic stops and a dozen guns taken off the street. It's also being credited as part of the reason Salinas is on track to have its lowest murder rate in nearly a decade. Gonzales High School is one place where

the task force is using education in the fight against crime. Officers talked with teachers about spotting gang warning signs -- things such as clothing, tattoos and graffiti.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.theksbwchannel.com/news/5331353/detail.html>

**31. FL: JSO: Violent South American gang not in Jacksonville (Fox30 WAWS, 17 Nov 2005)**

One of the most violent and feared gangs in the world may have an open invitation to come to the First Coast. The CBS 47 Troubleshooters have uncovered information that the dangerous MS-13 gang may have been called in to help protect illegal immigrants living in town because they say they can't count on police. According to authorities, the MS-13 gang is one of the most feared and fastest growing gangs in the U.S. With ties to El Salvador, members have been know to leave calling cards, not with bullets, but machetes. An MS-13 execution can mean decapitation, and initiation means getting beaten almost to death.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H17F25D2C>

**32. MD: Suspected Members Of MS-13 Charged in Md. Brothel Robbery (Washington Post, 16 Nov 2005)**

Montgomery County police arrested four suspected gang members Monday night after walking in on a robbery at a brothel operated out of a Wheaton apartment, authorities said yesterday. Police went to the apartment, in the 2300 block of Blueridge Avenue, looking for a carjacking suspect, according to a police document. "Upon arrival and knocking on the door a voice stated, 'come in,' " Detective David Woolsey wrote. "The officers and detectives entered the apartment and bedlam ensued."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K36F22D2C>

**33. MD: Robbery suspects may be MS-13 members (Washington Times, 17 Nov 2005)**

Four men arrested after Montgomery County Police interrupted a robbery at a Wheaton apartment Tuesday night are suspected members of the Salvadoran street gang MS-13, police and county officials said yesterday. "They're four members of MS-13 allegedly involved in criminal conduct who are now behind bars," said Montgomery County state's attorney Douglas F. Gansler. "We are operating under the assumption they are MS-13 members."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20051116-111005-8065r.htm>

**34. MD: Will state hit brakes on illegals driver's licenses? (Washington Times, 17 Nov 2005)**

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration is not awarding driver's licenses to illegal aliens in a timely fashion, according to a government-funded advocacy group that has filed a lawsuit in Baltimore Circuit Court. This is as it should be in a state that has rolled out a welcome mat to the illegal aliens streaming across the Rio Grande. Maryland is one

of the favored destinations of illegal aliens because the state aims to show its pronounced level of multiculturalism. All this is symptomatic of a nation that has lost its way, of politicians who lack the spine to enforce our laws, of the loony left who traffic in their smug superiority. Maryland's MVA is not being fair to illegal aliens, says CASA of Maryland. Worse, the agency is not as Spanish-friendly as it should be, according to CASA.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20051116-111005-3928r.htm>

**35. NJ: Gang activity in state doubles (Bridgeton News, 16 Nov 2005)**

VINELAND - "We really do need the help of all of you to control our gang problem," Prosecutor Ron Casella said to the packed room at Cumberland County College. "It's all around us." Det. Dennis Talavera from the state police street crimes unit led the first presentation at the Frank Guaracini Jr. Fine and Performing Arts Center. "I am not a gang expert," he started off by saying. "But I am a gang investigator. Not all of them wear bandannas. Not all of them do hand signs."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?G1D332E2C>

**36. NJ: Cops link drive-by shootings to a gang - It may have been an initiation rite (Asbury Press, 15 Nov 2005)**

JACKSON - Two teenagers wounded in a drive-by shooting were victims of a gang attack and possibly gang-initiation rites, authorities said Monday. "It was gang activity," Lt. Jeff Harper of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office said Monday of the shooting at the Regency Club Apartments Sunday. Although three Lakewood teens have been arrested, the investigation hasn't concluded and officials can't say definitely what the motive was. However, "We can't rule out that it was an initiation," Harper added.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E17A22A2C>

**37. PA: Random gunfire hurts 2; 3 alleged gang members held (The Philadelphia Inquirer, 15 Nov 2005)**

An 18-year-old and two 16-year-olds from Ocean County were charged with attempted murder yesterday after a random drive-by shooting wounded two people in Jackson Township early Sunday, authorities said. The victims were playing with an iPod in a car outside the Regency Club Apartments when a Ford Thunderbird pulled alongside about 1:30 a.m. One of three males in the Thunderbird fired a spray of bullets into the other vehicle, and then the Thunderbird sped away. Soon after, police arrested Eric Adair, 18, and a 16-year-old in South Toms River. Another 16-year-old was apprehended in Beachwood. All three are from Lakewood, said Lt. Jeff Harper, a spokesman for the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/news/local/states/new\\_jersey/13169815.htm](http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/news/local/states/new_jersey/13169815.htm)

**38. PA: DA goes after gang members - New strategy. Morganelli to use RICO laws on area's criminals. (The Express-Times, 16 Nov 2005)**

EASTON - The proliferation of gangs across the Lehigh Valley has resulted in an explosion of violent crime that has prompted Northampton County officials to launch a bold new initiative that will prosecute suspected gang members just for being in or associating with a gang. The new strategy was announced Tuesday by Northampton County District Attorney John Morganelli who said a new approach to fighting gangs is needed as gangs become more technologically savvy and sophisticated in their criminal networks.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P6A232E2C>

**39. VA: Teen on trial for gang beating (PotomacNews.com, 15 Nov 2005)**

An 18-year-old Manassas-area man was on trial Monday for allegedly participating in the gang beating of a 14-year-old boy. Several members of Mara Salvatrucha, a street gang better known as MS-13, attacked the boy Feb. 23 as he walked home from a Stonewall Jackson Middle School basketball game, the victim testified Monday. Juan Cruz Hernandez is accused of being one of the attackers, and is charged with aggravated malicious wounding and criminal gang participation. Hernandez pleaded not guilty, and denies being a current member of the gang or taking part in the beating.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?E58A13A2C>

**40. Canada: Gang sting nets 58 arrests - Durham cops lay 287 charges (Toronto Sun, 17 Nov 2005)**

WHITBY - Two street gangs that allegedly terrorized a community by randomly attacking residents and picking fights with cops have had nearly 60 members busted in an undercover police sting. "I don't think I've seen street gangs as brazen as this group was," said Insp. Mike Ewles of the Durham police criminal intelligence branch. "That's what spurred our involvement early in the year. The community was on edge." The arrests come after Project Burn -- a five-month undercover investigation by Durham police targeting drug dealers and street gangs in the region. Alleged members of the gangs -- known as the Baby Blue Chippin' Crew and the Crip Crew -- are accused of crimes such as picking fights with uniformed police officers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://torontosun.com/News/TorontoAndGTA/2005/11/17/1310678-sun.html>

**NARCO TRAFFICKING**

**41. FL: Sheriff's Office nets cocaine, marijuana (Sun-Herald, 15 Nov 2005)**

PORT CHARLOTTE - Charlotte County Sheriff's Office deputies on Saturday made their second big drug bust in a week. Deputies confiscated 150 grams of cocaine and 1,263 grams of marijuana Saturday from a Chaves Circle home, a police report stated. Deputies arrested 23-year-old James Michael Halas on charges of trafficking in cocaine, possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and possession of drug paraphernalia.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H15F24D2C>

**42. GA: Federal bust turns up cash, cocaine, 7 guns - Five men arrested following Tuesday raid at Atlanta home (The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 17 Nov 2005)**

In the drug game, sometimes even hardened federal agents, accustomed to handling large scores of money and drugs, can get a little excited about a big score. As six of them loaded the bounty of a major drug bust on a table for wide-eyed journalists, it was apparent to all that this was big. Wrapped in gray duct tape were 120 bricks of cocaine, worth about \$12 million retail on the streets. There were stacks of cold hard cash. Big head Lincolns, Hamiltons, Jacksons, Grants and Franklins. In a large duffle bag, money almost spilled over. The money hasn't been counted yet, but D.E.A. Special-Agent-in-Charge Sherri Strange estimates it to be close to \$2 million.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/atlanta/1105/17metdrugbust.html>

**43. IL: Four men accused of dealing in cocaine (The Journal Register, 15 Nov 2005)**

Four local men are facing federal charges for allegedly dealing in large amounts of powder cocaine in Springfield and Taylorville. Among them is a man who was sent to prison in 2000 for receiving a shipment of 450 pounds of marijuana from Texas.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.sj-r.com/sections/news/stories/71347.asp>

**44. KS: Investigators say Crack Replaces Meth in Central Kansas (AP, 14 Nov 2005)**

Authorities in Reno County say crack dealers are taking advantage of the focus on fighting methamphetamine. Reno County handled 29 meth cases and only six crack cocaine cases two years ago. But last year, the number of meth cases fell to 17, while crack jumped to 30. And it's the same trend so far this year, with 17 meth cases and 23 crack cocaine cases reported. Sheriff Randy Henderson says the county Drug Enforcement Unit hasn't seen this many cocaine cases in ten to 15 years.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wibw.com/home/headlines/1968927.html>

**45. MD: Alleged Cocaine Dealer Busted in Cambridge (WBOC16, 15 Nov 2005)**

CAMBRIDGE- A 30-year-old Cambridge man is facing serious drug charges following a Thursday drug bust in his home. The Dorchester County Narcotics Task Force on Thursday, Nov. 10, obtained a search and seizure warrant before entering the house, located on 400 Pine Street in Cambridge. The police say that investigators found 157.2 grams of powder cocaine, trace amounts of crack cocaine, electronic scales and \$1,203 in cash.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wboc.com/Global/story.asp?S=4122685&nav=MXEF>

**46. MA: 9 deny charges in cocaine probe (The Republican, 17 Nov 2005)**

NORTHAMPTON - Nine more people pleaded innocent to drug charges yesterday in Hampshire Superior Court in connection with an investigation of cocaine dealing in Athol, Orange and Northampton. A total of 16 people have been charged in connection with surveillance, wire taps and searches done by police in Northampton, Orange, New

Salem and Holyoke. All have pleaded innocent and had their cases continued to December for pretrial conferences and to February for pretrial hearings.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?X63F21D2C>

**47. MA: Former DJ gets five years for cocaine trafficking (The Salem News Online, 17 Nov 2005)**

PEABODY - A former disc jockey whose cache o drugs and cash was discovered after his girlfriend called police to report a domestic dispute was sentenced to fiv years in state prison Tuesday. John W. Bokarvich, 34, of 15 Larrabee Terrace, Peabody, pleaded guilty to cocaine trafficking, drug possession and assault and battery during a hearing in Salem Superior Court. Police had found cocaine, marijuana, steroids, OxyContin and \$60,000 in cash in his home.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Q52F12D2C>

**48. NY: Witness: drug money delivered in plastic shopping bags (Pravda.ru, 18 Nov 2005)**

The witness recalled the drug money being delivered to the Manhattan headquarters of Murder Inc. in plastic shopping bags. One time, he said, it arrived stuffed in a shoe box small bills stacked and bound in rubber bands. "It was a huge amount of money," Donnell Nichols, who briefly worked at the successful rap music label in 2000, said Thursday at a federal trial. "There were huge stacks." Prosecutors hoped to present Nichols, 31, as a whistleblower who could offer jurors an inside look at how the label's chief executive, Irving Lorenzo, and his brother Christopher laundered drug money. The defense countered by attacking him an unpaid, clueless flunky and chronic liar who was fired after six months. During a lengthy cross-examination, defense attorney Gerald Shargel gave Nichols a shoe box and tens of thousands of phony dollars and challenged him to fit all of it inside. He couldn't.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://newsfromrussia.com/accidents/2005/11/18/67934.html>

**49. TX: Customs officials detain two in meth smuggling case (The Brownsville Herald, 17 Nov 2005)**

Two women face federal drug trafficking charges after they were caught smuggling more than 12 pounds of methamphetamines across the B&M International Bridge Monday morning, according to a federal criminal complaint. Bertha Cortez and Claudia Garza, according to the complaint, drove across the B&M International Bridge Monday morning in a red Oldsmobile Silhouette. Customs inspectors reported finding 12.3 pounds of methamphetamines under their clothes.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/ts\\_more.php?id=68111\\_0\\_10\\_0\\_C](http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/ts_more.php?id=68111_0_10_0_C)

**50. WA: Feds bust major drug gang (Seattle Post-Intelligencer Reporter, 17 Nov 2005)**

Federal agents and local police arrested 19 people with ties to a violent street gang today and said they broke up a drug ring that was a major supplier of crack cocaine and OxyContin in Seattle's Central District. "The Drug Enforcement Administration, working closely with local law enforcement, has been engaged in the 'Street Light Initiative,' which shines a light on the ties between drug trafficking and violent gangs," said Rodney Benson, special agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Seattle. "Today a significant blow was administered to a greater Seattle based violent drug-trafficking gag, the 74 Hoover Crips." The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives was involved in the arrests.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/248763\\_bust17ww.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/248763_bust17ww.html)

**51. The Untouchable Narco-State - Guatemala's military defies the DEA (The Texas Observer, by Frank Smyth, 17 Nov 2005) – Interesting article.**

The alert went out across the state this past July. A McAllen-base FBI analyst wrote a classified report that the Department of Homeland Security sent to U.S. Border Patrol agents throughout Texas. About 30 suspects who were once part of an elite unit of the Guatemalan special forces were training drug traffickers in paramilitary tactics just over the border from McAllen. The unit, called the *Kaibiles* after the Mayan prince Kaibil Balam, is one of the most fearsome military forces in Latin America, blamed for many of the massacres that occurred in Guatemala during its 36-year civil war. By September, Mexican authorities announced that they had arrested seven Guatemalan Kaibiles, including four "deserters" who were still listed by the Guatemalan Army as being on active duty. Mexican authorities say the Kaibiles were meant to augment Las Zetas, a drug gang of soldiers-turned-hitmen drawn from Mexico's own special forces. It's logical that the Zetas would turn to their Guatemalan counterparts. In addition to being a neighbor, "Guatemala is the preferred transit point in Central America for onward shipment of cocaine to the United States," the State Department has consistently reported to Congress since 1999. In early November, anti-drug authorities at the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala told the Associated Press that 75 percent of the cocaine that reaches American soil passes through the Central American nation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.mollyivins.com/showArticle.asp?ArticleID=2071>

**52. U.S. nabs Guatemala anti-drug chief for smuggling (Reuters, 16 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - Guatemala's anti-drug chief and two of his senior officials have been arrested on charges of conspiring to import and distribute cocaine in the United States, U.S. officials said on Wednesday. They said the three high-level members of the Guatemalan anti-narcotics agency were arrested in the United States on Tuesday after arriving in the country from Guatemala. The defendants have been charged in an indictment handed up by a federal grand jury in Washington. If convicted, they face a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison, the officials said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N16615594.htm>

**53. Cocaine more costly in United States (Reuters, 17 Nov 2005)**

BOGOTA, Colombia - Cocaine is becoming more expensive on U.S. streets in a sign that a \$3 billion aid program to Colombia is finally bringing results and reducing illegal drug imports, the White House drugs czar said on Thursday. The price of cocaine on U.S. streets rose by 19 percent from February to September, hitting about \$170 per pure gram, according to data published by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. Higher prices probably mean less of the illegal stimulant is making it to U.S. shores, as users try to outbid each other, the office's director, John Walters, told Reuters.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N17462275.htm>

**54. UK: Cheaper cocaine floods capital (The Scotsman, 17 Nov 2005)**

A LINE of cocaine now costs a third of what it did in 1999, according to the head of Edinburgh's anti-drug team. Drug workers say that the city has been swamped by the class-A drug, driving the price down. A gram of cocaine on the city's streets has fallen in the past six years from £90 to just £35. It is feared that the affordability of the drug will lead to an increase in violent gun crime and robbery in the city as dealers fight for dominance, as well as a rise in crack addiction among users.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://news.scotsman.com/edinburgh.cfm?id=2253272005>

**55. UK: £100,000 of cocaine found in park (BBC, 17 Nov 2005)**

A man out walking his dog in a Dungannon park has discovered cocaine with an estimated street value of more than £100,000. He found the drugs hidden in the Peatlands Park area of the town on Thursday morning. The man took the haul to a local police station where it was examined and confirmed as cocaine. Police Sector Commander Tom Sinclair praised the man's "observance and prompt action". A substantial quantity of a highly dangerous illegal drug had been taken out of circulation, Mr Sinclair added.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/northern\\_ireland/4446934.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/northern_ireland/4446934.stm)

**56. UK: Drugs gang members sent to jail (BBC, 15 Nov 2005)**

A 17-strong gang of drug traffickers who smuggled £25m worth of cannabis into the Midlands have been jailed. The West Midlands-based gang smuggled the drugs from Spain and Holland hidden in consignments of flowers and oranges. Suspected members of the gang were followed by the National Crime Squad (NCS) for 18 months.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/west\\_midlands/4439290.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/west_midlands/4439290.stm)

**57. 799 Foreigners Held in Pakistan on Drug Smuggling Charges (IRNA, 17 Nov 2005)**

As many as 799 foreigners, mostly from African countries, were arrested in Pakistan on charges of drug smuggling in 2003 and 2004. Some 401 were arrested in 2003 and 398 in 2004, Minister for Narcotics Control Ghous Bux Mehar told the Upper House of Pakistan Parliament on Wednesday evening. Giving breakdown of those apprehended, the minister pointed out that bulk of these belonged to African countries, including Nigeria, Guinea,

South Africa and Tanzania. Others included one each from Saudi Arabia, Iran, Italy, Canada, China, Afghanistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.irna.ir/en/news/view/menu-234/0511177931164633.htm>

## **CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

### **58. Hotel WiFi Dangerous Source of Identity Theft (All Headline News, 17 Nov 2005)**

Salt Lake City, UT - As travelers gear up for holiday travel, an Internet security firm warns they should be aware of hotels that have poorly protected Internet connections. iBAHN, a leading provider of high-speed Internet, warns that a hacker sitting in a room just down the hall, or in a hotel lobby, can view personal information, credit card and bank account numbers stored on a computer's hard drive. iBAHN recommends the following tips to travelers.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7001071899>

### **59. Webroot Spy Sweeper Enterprise 2.5 Named as Finalist for SC Magazine 2006 Best Anti-Spyware Award (PRNewswire, 15 Nov 2005)**

BOULDER, Colo. - Webroot Software's Spy Sweeper Enterprise 2.5 has been nominated as a finalist in SC Magazine's 2006 SC Awards for Best Anti-spyware in the Reader Trust Technology category. The SC Awards are voted on by the readers of SC Magazine and the SC Awards Council, a group of senior CSOs around the world. Winners will be announced at the SC Awards Gala being held on February 14, during the RSA Conference in San Jose, Calif.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/051115/latu039.html?.v=32>

## **COUNTERFEIT**

### **60. Businessman Charged in Iraq Scheme Ex-Con (AP, 17 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - U.S. occupation officials gave a man with a federal fraud conviction control of millions of dollars for Iraqi reconstruction. Now the man is charged with accepting kickbacks to steer contracts to a businessman. Robert J. Stein Jr., 50, of Fayetteville, N.C., used some of the kickback money to make a restitution payment for his earlier conviction and his wife used some to pay federal taxes, according to a federal affidavit. Stein faces conspiracy, money laundering, wire fraud and other charges stemming from his alleged role in helping Philip H. Bloom, a U.S. citizen who has lived in Romania for many years, get contracts in Iraq worth more than \$13 million, federal authorities said Thursday.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=317409>

## **TECHNOLOGY**

**61. NYC Expands Use Of Bioterrorism Database (Forbes, 16 Nov 2005)**

NEW YORK - Any day now, a patient infected with smallpox could walk into a busy emergency room. The patient would have a rash with a sore throat and a mild fever. Common enough symptoms. The only thing preventing a misdiagnosis by a doctor who has never seen smallpox is a dog-eared reference book with a couple of comparison pictures. "Pattern recognition for something like chicken pox is easy, but anthrax or smallpox is not something most doctors have seen," says Dr. Dan Weiner, chairman of emergency medicine at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center. "The challenge is to quickly identify cases of bioterrorism."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/index.php>

**62. New York police test subway bomb detectors (AP, 15 Nov 2005)**

NEW YORK - Police have introduced a new anti-terrorism tool designed to thwart potential subway bombers while reducing the intrusiveness of random bag searches: explosives detectors. The portable detection devices, tested at two subway stops during Monday evening's rush hour, are designed to chemically analyze swabs taken from the outside of bags for traces of explosives, police said. "This gives us an instant response," police spokesman Walter Burnes said. "It's faster than a bag search and less intrusive."

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/11/15/explosives.detectors.ap/index.html>

**63. Airliner Defense System Displayed - Northrop Grumman's jetliner-mounted device would use a laser to fend off a missile attack (Los Angeles Times, 17 Nov 2005)**

MOJAVE — Hoping to spur public support for equipping commercial airplanes with missile defense systems, Northrop Grumman Corp. has unveiled a 6-foot-long canoe-shaped device that would be attached to the belly of an airliner. The equipment would work by emitting a laser beam that would jam the guidance system of a shoulder-fired missile. Northrop put the device on display last week at Mojave Airport. The timing of Northrop's public relations event could not have been better. Hours earlier a federal grand jury in Los Angeles indicted two men on charges of conspiring to smuggle as many as 200 shoulder-fired, surface-to-air missiles into the U.S. Both men, naturalized U.S. citizens of Chinese descent living in Los Angeles, allegedly tried to broker the sale of Chinese-made QW-2 missiles to undercover FBI agents.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?U1DF25D2C>

**64. NC: Durham company's software to support new hospital surveillance system (Triangle Business Journal, 16 Nov 2005)**

Software developed by Durham-based MercuryMD will provide the core platform for a new hospital surveillance system unveiled Wednesday by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. The system, which is designed to detect the outbreak of an infectious disease epidemic or a bioterrorism attack, is the first of its kind in the country. More than 100 hospitals across the state will participate, accounting for more than 65 percent of all emergency room visits in the state. Through the network, called the

North Carolina Hospital Emergency Surveillance System, data is electronically sent in real time to the Division of Public Health, where experts will be able to instantly identify a problem. Currently, such information is sent via paper, and it can take weeks, if not months, to compile and analyze the data.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://triangle.bizjournals.com/triangle/stories/2005/11/14/daily29.html?jst=b ln hl>

#### **65. Vegetables to fight bioterrorism (ANSA, 17 Nov 2005)**

Rome - Common garden vegetables such as potatoes and carrots could help fend off a bioterrorist threat, Italian researchers said on Thursday . Speaking at a United States-Italian scientific conference, they explained that the combined efforts of experts from both countries had produced a "vegetable vaccination" project . Although still in the early stages, the scheme could eventually see the DNA of the smallpox virus introduced into that of carrots, potatoes and other vegetable plants . Once eaten, the vegetables would stimulate the production of antibodies, helping the body's natural defences fight off the disease.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://ansa.it/main/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2005-11-17\\_1863970.html](http://ansa.it/main/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2005-11-17_1863970.html)

### **RESOURCES**

#### **66. TSA releases guidance on biometrics for access control (GCN, 15 Nov 2005)**

The Transportation Security Administration has issued a [guidance document](#) on the basic criteria and standards the agency believes biometric technology should meet in order to qualify for airport access control systems. Congress mandated in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act that TSA consult with representatives of the aviation and biometrics industries, as well as the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to develop the guidance package. The document is intended for two main audiences: airport operators, who own and operate the access control systems at their airports, and manufacturers of biometrics devices, whose products will be evaluated for inclusion on a Qualified Products List.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/37560-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/37560-1.html)

#### **67. Information Security Firm Releases Free E-Guide For Identity Theft Victims (Empire Information Services, 16 Nov 2005)**

ALBANY, NY - In response to recent natural disasters in Florida, the Gulf Coast and the Midwest, The Michelangelo Group, a national information security firm with offices in Albany, NY and Reno, NV, has published a free electronic handbook that outlines the high priority actions that disaster victims should take in order to protect against identity theft. The guidebook, authored by Michael J. Santarcangelo, CISSP, founder of The Michelangelo Group, and John Sileo, an expert and speaker on identity theft prevention and mitigation strategies, was created with the intent to help people avoid the fate of other recent disaster victims, who, in the aftermath, have become victims of identity theft. The book also offers preemptive measures that the general public -- at constant risk -- can take to prevent this type of fraud. "We wrote this guide to provide the public with basic

information that will allow them to reclaim their thinking in the moment and take some simple steps to prevent a disaster within a disaster," said Santarcangelo. "It is based on our experience as well as our insights, but it also comes from our hearts." The guide is available online - for free - at the following address:

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.securitysynergy.com/eGuides/eGuide-Identity.pdf>

**68. The Death Cult of the Drug Lords Mexico's Patron Saint of Crime, Criminals, and the Dispossessed, by Kevin Freese, Foreign Military Studies Office, Fort Leavenworth, KS., September 2005**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://fmso.leavenworth.army.mil/documents/Santa-Muerte/santa-muerte.htm>

**69. Operation Secure Mexico, by Thomas S. Davidson II, CW4, MI, FMSO-JRIC Analyst, Foreign Military Studies Office, June 2005**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://fmso.leavenworth.army.mil/documents/op-secure-mex/op-secure-mex.htm>

**70. Estimating Terrorism Risk, Henry H. Willis, Andrew R. Morral, Terrence K. Kelly, Jamison Jo Medby, MG-388-RC, 2005.**

This monograph provides a practical definition of terrorism risk, presents a method of estimating it, and demonstrates a framework for evaluating this method. Results support conclusions on how to improve risk-based resource allocation.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/MG/MG388/>

**71. Assessing Container Security: A Framework for Measuring Performance of the Global Supply Chain, RB-9095-RC, 2005.**

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/RB/RB9095/>

**72. Exemplary Practices in Public Health Preparedness, Terri Tanielian, Karen Ricci, Michael A. Stoto, David J. Dausey, Lois M. Davis, Sarah Myers, Stuart Olmsted, Henry H. Willis, TR-239-DHHS, 2005**

Briefly describes the methods and criteria used to select exemplary practices in public health preparedness.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/TR/TR239/>

**73. Financing Terror: An Analysis and Simulation to Affect Al Qaeda's Financial Infrastructures, Steve Kiser, RGSD-185, 2005**

Explores how U.S. and international counter-terrorism policies affect the financial support networks of Al Qaeda and its affiliates.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/RGSD/RGSD185/>

**74. Learning from Experience: The Public Health Response to West Nile Virus, SARS, Monkeypox, and Hepatitis A Outbreaks in the United States, Michael A. Stoto, David J. Dausey, Lois M. Davis, Kristin Leuschner, Nicole Lurie, Sarah Myers, Stuart Olmsted, Karen Ricci, M. Susan Ridgely, Elizabeth M. Sloss, Jeffrey Wasserman, TR-285-DHHS, 2005**

Describes the response of state and local health departments to outbreaks of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), monkeypox, West Nile virus, and hepatitis A.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/TR/TR285/>

**75. Police Personnel Challenges After September 11: Anticipating Expanded Duties and a Changing Labor Pool, Barbara Raymond, Laura J. Hickman, Laura Miller, Jennifer S. Wong, OP-154-RC, 2005**

Drawing on RAND's extensive work in military personnel management, this paper identifies potential planning and analysis tools that might be adapted to address some of the recruiting and retention challenges faced by law enforcement agencies.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/OP/OP154/>

**76. Process Evaluation of Project Public Health Ready, Sarah Myers, Michael A. Stoto, TR-224-HLTH, 2005**

An evaluation of the pilot year of Project Public Health Ready, a voluntary program for which participants receive recognition and which prepares local public health agencies to respond to bioterrorism and to protect the public's health.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/TR/TR224/>

**77. Protecting Commercial Aviation Against the Shoulder-Fired Missile Threat, James Chow, James Chiesa, Paul Dreyer, Mel Eisman, Theodore W. Karasik, Joel Kvitky, Sherrill Lingel, David Ochmanek, Chad Shirley, OP-106-RC, 2005**

Examines the capabilities and costs of onboard technologies to divert or destroy missiles attacking commercial airliners.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.rand.org/publications/OP/OP106/>

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

**78. Defense Dept. Courts Commercial Vendors to Help Defeat WMD Threats (National Defense, December 2005 Issue)**

The Pentagon is seeking "non-traditional" commercial suppliers of chemical and biological defense products. Of particular interest are vaccines, long-range sensors that can detect unknown deadly agents and warning systems that can alert potential victims of a bio-warfare attack. Backed by a \$400 million annual budget for research and development, the Defense Threats Reduction Agency plans to lure contractors who so far have been reluctant to work with the U.S. government. DTRA, based in Fort Belvoir, Va., took charge of the chemical and biological defense research program in 2002. Since

then, it has found that the cadre of suppliers the Pentagon usually relies upon is not enough to meet the agency's growing demands for innovative technologies, officials said. CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

[http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2005/Dec1/UF-Defense\\_Dept.htm](http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2005/Dec1/UF-Defense_Dept.htm)

#### **79. TSA needs new system for FOIA queries (UPI, 14 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The TSA needs a new E-mail system to respond to a flood of Freedom of Information Act requests. "The purpose of this project is to bring (the Transportation Security Administration) into compliance with National Archives and Records Administration standards for document e-mail archive and retrieval," a TSA statement said. "TSA has had a steadily increasing volume of [FOIA] requests since its creation. The FOIA requests frequently involve collecting data resident in [business] e-mail," it said. Several companies have responded to the request for existing technology that includes installation, maintenance and training of the necessary software and hardware, National Journal's Technology Daily said.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.upi.com/SecurityTerrorism/view.php?StoryID=20051114-061044-7102r>

### **EVENTS**

#### **80. DoD to hold security stand-down (FCW, 16 Nov 2005)**

The Defense Department will hold a "security stand-down" Nov. 29 to focus on information assurance and network security. Military and civilian employees at the major commands, services and agencies will focus on better protecting DOD data and systems. One step will involve changing passwords, said Air Force Lt. Gen. Charlie Croom, director of the Defense Information Systems Agency and commander of the Joint Task Force for Global Network Operations (JTF-GNO). He spoke Nov. 16 during a luncheon sponsored by the Washington, D.C., chapter of AFCEA International. Croom said DOD will stand down on security the same way the services do when one of their aircraft crashes or experiences problems. He said the department will focus on enterprise security. Strategic Command (Stratcom), the major command that oversees the operation and protection of the military's networks, issued the security stand-down order the week of Nov. 7. DOD employees will conduct certain activities to strengthen and become more aware of network security, said Tim Madden, a spokesman for JTF-GNO. He declined to elaborate.

CABLE Gram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article91462-11-16-05-Web>

### **FULL REPORTS**

#### **81. Colombia's Efforts Help Reduce Supply of Narcotics in U.S. (By Lauren Monsen, Washington File Staff Writer, 17 Nov 2005)**

Washington - The ongoing U.S.-Colombian partnership against the illicit drug trade has succeeded in reducing the availability of cocaine and heroin in the United States, says John Walters, director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

Briefing reporters in Washington on November 17, Walters praised the leadership of Colombia President Alvaro Uribe in tackling a problem that has plagued the Andean nation for decades. Uribe's stance against traffickers, and against the climate of violence and lawlessness that the drug trade promotes, is paving the way for a better future in Colombia, Walters said.

In connection with those efforts in Colombia, he said, "we have seen, ... for the first time, a decline in the purity of cocaine in the United States" and a corresponding increase in cocaine's price at the retail level. "And we're pleased to announce that -- roughly beginning in February, based on our data of sampling inside the United States -- there was a change in availability of cocaine."

The reduced availability of cocaine in the United States mirrors a similar trend that the ONDCP announced "several weeks ago," Walters said. Analysts have noted a "change in availability of heroin that is produced in Colombia: so-called South American heroin, identified by the nature and characteristic of its chemical processing," he explained. Recent monitoring, he said, "showed a 30 percent increase in [heroin's] price and 22 percent decrease in purity between 2003 and 2004," reflecting a decline in the overall heroin supply in the United States.

The decrease in available purity of both cocaine and heroin is important, but so is the fact that "about 80 percent of the cocaine consumed in the United States ... is consumed by roughly 10 percent" of users, Walters observed. This pattern of consumption means that "an addict base is the necessary underpinning of every substance of abuse," he told reporters.

The ONDCP has a long record of support for public-education and intervention programs to help stem the tide of first-time casual drug users, thereby reducing the pool of potential addicts. Walters cited new data that indicate a downward trend in entry-point drug use, which further consolidates the recent success of supply-reduction efforts.

#### CROP ERADICATION, RECORD SEIZURES REDUCE COCAINE'S AVAILABILITY

Colombia's aggressive efforts to eradicate illegal drug crops are an essential component in this success, he emphasized.

Statistics from 2003 and 2004 reveal that while "actual [crop] cultivation didn't decline" in Colombia, the Uribe administration's aerial spraying campaign to eradicate drug crops has forced many illicit producers to replant their crops and has reduced cocaine production levels demonstrably, Walters said. So "there was a significant decline in the ability to produce cocaine in Colombia," he said. "That translated into a decline in the production of cocaine worldwide."

Seizures of cocaine by law enforcement authorities also have contributed to the decline in availability. "We have had historic and record seizures of cocaine in the transit area" en route to the United States, said Walters. "We're [now] seizing over 400 metric tons of cocaine based on a market that ... is about 700 tons overall, in some cases."

In sum, "what we're announcing today is that [the U.S.-Colombian partnership] has substantially changed the vitality" of the illicit drug trade, said Walters. "Our challenge is to follow through. We're not done." But in reducing the availability of cocaine and heroin in the United States, and in disrupting the production capacity of illegal coca farming in Colombia, "what we have shown today is [that] those who have been preaching that this is not possible -- those who believe that supply control is inevitably doomed to failure, those who have [argued] that we ought to forget about trying to protect our citizens and live with the consequences of substance abuse -- are wrong."

A [transcript](#) of the briefing is available on the Foreign Press Center Web site.

For additional information on U.S. policy, see [Colombia](#).

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

## **82. No New Oversight for Internet Management, Summit Agrees (By Tim Receveur, Washington File Staff Writer, 16 Nov 2005)**

Washington – The United States and 170 other countries reached agreement on future of the management of the Internet on the eve of the United Nations-sponsored World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunis, Tunisia, November 16-18.

The November 15 agreement "reaffirms the importance of technology and particularly the Internet to the world" and "preserves the unique role of the United States Government in assuring the reliability and stability of the Internet," said Ambassador David Gross, the U.S. coordinator for international communications and information policy at the State Department and chief U.S. negotiator at WSIS.

"[The agreement] took no action with regard to existing institutions including ICANN [Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers] and others. It created no new international organizations," said Gross at a Tunis press briefing held after the agreement was adopted.

WSIS was originally convened in 2003 to narrow the "digital divide" -- the gap between information haves and have-nots. However, in advance of the Tunis summit, talks and media attention focused heavily on a disagreement among nations over Internet governance and the oversight of the main computers that control traffic on the Internet.

In September, the European Union recommended a new framework for international cooperation that would see the creation of a new, multi-stakeholder "forum" to develop public policy, and international governance of the Internet through ICANN, a nonprofit

company in California responsible for carrying out the technical management of the domain name and addressing system (DNS). (See [related article](#).)

Countries such as Iran, Venezuela, Cuba, and Saudi Arabia had sought U.N. oversight of ICANN and Internet governance, but the United States firmly opposed that suggestion, maintaining that the innovation and creativity of the Internet should not be impeded by a bureaucratic governing structure.

The agreement is consistent with a November 15 U.S. House of Representatives resolution calling for ICANN to remain in its present state with no additional oversight.

Ambassador Gross said the United States is “very pleased” over the definition of Internet governance in the agreement, saying it focuses less on “some of the technical aspects” and more on a broad range of issues including spam (unwanted e-mail), cybercrime, and security-related issues.

“And also very, very importantly, it focuses and refocuses and reaffirms the importance of the free flow of information, reaffirms the importance of technology for facilitating that and for the positive economic, social and political developments that can occur from that,” said Gross.

## EXPANDING THE INTERNET

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce Michael Gallagher said the agreement means the world will leave the day-to-day management of the Internet to the private sector through ICANN. He said the onus now is on the world to expand the Internet to the benefit of developing countries.

“The key here is to get countries around the world, but particularly in the developing world, to adopt and ingrain the use of technology to help better their economies, jobs, economic opportunities,” Gallagher said.

The agreement will also create the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Spring 2006.

The forum is intended to provide “an opportunity for civil society and the private sector to engage with governments on an equal footing in ways that are very unusual, particularly in the U.N. family,” said Gross.

“We hope this will be a springboard for a lot of progress to be made with regard to implementations of the sorts of things that were discussed both in the Geneva phase [in 2003] and also here in the Tunis phase documents,” he said.

According to the November 15 agreement, the IGF would have “no oversight function and would not replace existing arrangements, mechanisms, institutions or organizations, but would involve them and take advantage of their expertise. It would be constituted as a

neutral, non-duplicative and non-binding process. It would have no involvement in day-to-day or technical operations of the Internet.”

For ongoing coverage of the November 16-18 WSIS conference, see [World Summit on the Information Society](#).

The [full texts](#) of documents presented at the Tunis summit are available on the organization’s Web site.

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

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