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

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*CABLE Gram* Volume 2 Issue 73

29 November 2005 CABLE Gram™

Good Morning All,

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Take care,

Zhi Hamby-Nye, Editor

Henry Ziegler, Associate Editor

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We search the topics and Websites that you request, so it is important for you to provide feedback. We are in our infancy and the *CABLE Gram* will be as useful as you help make it. Please let us know the topics and keywords that will assist you in your professional endeavors. Send all comments and suggestions to [zhi@cablegram.org](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. U.S. spy programs within U.S. expanded (UPI, 27 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The Defense Department has expanded programs aimed at gathering and analyzing intelligence within the United States, it was reported Sunday. The moves create new agencies, add personnel and seek additional legal authority for domestic security activities in the post-9/11 world, the Washington Post said. The White House is reported considering expanding the power of a little-known, three-year-old Pentagon agency called the Counterintelligence Field Activity, or CIFA. In addition to coordinating Pentagon security efforts, CIFA would have authority to investigate crimes within the United States such as treason, foreign or terrorist sabotage or even economic espionage. The Pentagon has pushed legislation on Capitol Hill that would create an intelligence

exception to the Privacy Act, allowing the FBI and others to share information gathered about U.S. citizens with other intelligence agencies if related to foreign intelligence.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J3AF1293C>

## **2. FEMA Gives Hurricane Evacuees Extra Month (AP, 22 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - Stung by complaints it was pushing hurricane victims out before the holidays, FEMA extended its hotel housing program Tuesday by a month in 10 states where most of the homeless evacuees sought shelter after Katrina and Rita. More than 46,000 families in those states now have until Jan. 7 to move out of hotels and into travel trailers, mobile homes or apartments until they find permanent homes. The deadline comes much sooner \_ Dec. 15 \_ for 3,500 other households scattered nationwide, before the Federal Emergency Management Agency stops paying their hotel bills.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=316798>

## **3. Bush Signs Flood Insurance Borrowing Bill (AP, 22 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON - The federal flood insurance agency, whose funds have all but dried up because of heavy hurricane claims, will be able to resume payments to flood victims under a measure signed by President Bush. The legislation, signed by Bush late Monday, raises to \$18.5 billion the amount the National Flood Insurance Program can borrow from the Treasury every year. The House and Senate each passed the measure last Friday by voice vote. In September, Congress voted to raise the borrowing authority to \$3.5 billion from \$1.5 billion. But that level was quickly reached in claims from hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, and insurers were told to stop paying claims.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/index.php?nid=78&sid=318054>

## **4. Truckers Balk at Passport Requirement (Insurance Journal, 25 Nov 2005)**

Nearly a year after President Bush signed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, the trucking industry is seeking flexibility in the act's regulatory implementation so that commercial drivers are not mandated to carry a passport, a trucking executive testified before Congress recently. The statute includes language that allows for such flexibility. Speaking on behalf of the American Trucking Associations before the U.S. House Committee on Small Business, Kenneth Staub Jr., vice president of flatbed carrier Riverside Service Corp., said if commercial drivers were required to carry passports, the additional process and expense could dissuade commercial truck drivers from transporting international commerce between the United States and its two largest trading partners. Passports also would duplicate existing government-issued identification for commercial truck drivers and security documentation, he said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/national/2005/11/25/62183.htm>

## **5. Guardians of the line (Arizona Star Net, 27 Nov 2005)**

The U.S. Border Patrol could add up to 10,000 agents in the next five years. The training this sometimes-controversial agency requires can seem brutal, and the job can be deadly. So who would sign up for work like this?

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.azstarnet.com/news/104363>

#### **6. CDC plans flight e-tracking (FCW, 23 Nov 2005)**

Battling a pandemic disease such as avian flu requires the ability to quickly track sick people and anyone they have contacted. In response, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention officials have proposed new federal regulations to electronically track more than 600 million U.S. airline passengers a year traveling on more than 7 million flights through 67 hub airports. The new regulations, which are available on the CDC's Web site and will be posted for a 60-day comment period in the Federal Register starting Nov. 30, would require airlines, travel agents and global reservations systems to collect personal information that exceeds the quantity of information currently collected by the Transportation Security Administration or the Homeland Security Department.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://govhealthit.com/article91532-11-23-05-Web>

#### **7. CDC Seeks Better Quarantine Rules (AP, 22 Nov 2005)**

ATLANTA - Federal health officials are seeking to update quarantine regulations, hoping changes such as easier access to airline passenger lists could better protect Americans from foreign infectious diseases, including bird flu. The proposed changes, announced Tuesday by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, include easier CDC access to airline and ship passenger lists, a clearer appeals process for people subjected to quarantines, and explicit authority to offer vaccinations and medical treatment to quarantined people. The changes are part of a multi-pronged attempt to guard against infectious agents from abroad. In the past 1 1/2 years, the CDC also has increased the number of quarantine stations at airports, ship ports and land-border crossings from eight to 18.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=1338732>

#### **8. Doubts fail to halt U.S. anthrax plan - The nation is spending more than \$1 billion for vaccines some officials say aren't effective. (Orlanda Sentinel, 25 Nov 2005)**

America's homeland-defense program is spending more than \$1 billion on anthrax vaccines earmarked for wide civilian use despite uncertainty about their effectiveness and an ongoing debate about potential health problems, Newsday has found. The vaccine stockpiling is a key element of the federal Project BioShield program, awarded \$5.6 billion in funding in 2004 to develop drugs and vaccines to protect Americans against biological and chemical attacks. It constitutes the largest federal effort to protect civilians from an anthrax attack. In May, BioPort Corp., the only manufacturer licensed in the United States to produce an anthrax vaccine, won a \$123 million contract to make 5 million new doses for the public. Earlier this month, federal officials doubled their request.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?G39223A3C>

**9. Al-Qaida evidence along U.S. border? Senator views Arab personal effects, concerned about possible infiltration (WorldNetDaily.com, 26 Nov 2005)**

A U.S. senator says he's been shown "anecdotal evidence" suggesting an Arabic presence along the U.S.-Mexico border, noting the Bush administration has not publicly released the information because it is "a matter of intelligence." Human Events reported that Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, head of the Senate Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship, has seen beverage boxes with Arabic language and other items, including the image of a commercial airliner striking a building.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE\\_ID=47589](http://worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=47589)

**10. Hurricane damage pushes more toward U.S. - Illegal migration fueled by desperation in face of growing hunger crisis (The Dallas Morning News, 25 Nov 2005)**

Along The Mexico-Guatemala Border – For Oscar Pérez, the odds of arriving safely in the U.S. may be grim, but not grim enough to keep him from pushing ahead with his trek north. If anything, the arduous journey only confirms his decision to leave. His home destroyed by Hurricane Stan, his family growing hungry, Mr. Pérez began the 1,300-mile trip to the Texas border by bus through his native El Salvador and neighboring Guatemala. Along the way, he saw evidence of mudslides, flooded rivers, homes washed away and hopes dashed. "This is worse than I had imagined. What choice do we have when you go up against such force?" asked Mr. Pérez. "Either you starve, get restless, or go north, even if the odds of reaching the United States are against you."

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?C5FC12B3C>

**11. US in move that may bar foreign researchers (MSNBC, 25 Nov 2005)**

The US government is poised to propose rules that could restrict the ability of Chinese and other foreign nationals to engage in high-level research in the country, a plan that is generating fierce opposition from companies and universities. The move comes amid growing fears in the US that its relatively open rules allowing foreign nationals to work with sensitive technologies leave the country open to espionage.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/10195684/>

**12. US Universities in fury at plan to curb 'Chinese espionage' (FinancialTimes.com, 25 Nov 2005)**

The US Commerce Department called for public comments last March on a proposal to expand restrictions on the sharing of advanced research and technology with foreign nationals. The result was an outpouring of opposition, particularly from universities, which have already seen the enrolment of foreign students shrink because of new visa requirements adopted after September 11 2001. "I sit writing this letter one block from the site of the first self-sustaining chain reaction, produced in the 1940s by Enrico Fermi

and collaborators," wrote Simon Swordy, a professor of physics, astronomy and astrophysics at the University of Chicago, in one of more than 300 comments on the proposal, running to more than 1,100 pages.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://news.ft.com/cms/s/d9609d28-5d8a-11da-be9c-0000779e2340.html>

### **13. Oman Joins U.S. Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorist Arrangement - Agreement intended to thwart nuclear material, weapons smuggling (Dept. of State, 22 Nov 2005)**

The United States has signed an agreement with Oman designed to prevent smuggling of nuclear and other radioactive material as part of global nonproliferation and anti-terrorist efforts, U.S. agencies say. In a November 19 news release, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) said that U.S. equipment installed under the arrangement will allow for detection of hidden shipments of such materials. NNSA, a Department of Energy agency, said the United States has similar partnerships with the Netherlands and Greece and is working to involve additional countries. The agreement with Oman is part of the NNSA Megaport Initiative and the Container Security Initiative (CSI) managed by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency. Under CSI, U.S. customs officers placed in foreign ports target U.S.-bound high-risk cargo for inspection by local customs officials. In a separate November 22 news release, CBP said that the arrangement with the port of Salalah in Oman also will aim to detect and deter smuggling of terrorists and materials and weapons that can be used to mount terrorist attacks in the United States and other countries. [Additional information](#) on the Container Security Initiative is available on the CBP Web site.

## **STATE AND LOCAL NEWS**

### **14. CA: Federal Authorities Decide Not to Cut the Number of security screeners at San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport (Mercury News, 25 Nov 2005)**

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. - Federal authorities have reversed their decision to cut the number of security screeners at busy San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport. The Transportation Security Administration announced plans in August to reduce the number screeners by a third to 13 full-time equivalent positions. But the agency said last week the airport will instead maintain about 20 positions, citing double-digit growth in flights and passengers in recent years. Local officials support the increase.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?X1DA21B3C>

### **15. CA: All sides look to governor as gang leader's death date nears (By Martin Kasindorf, USA TODAY, 21 Nov 2005)**

LOS ANGELES - Celebrities and law enforcement officials are competing to sway California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger as he decides whether to spare the co-founder of the international Crips street gang from execution. Death row inmate Stanley "Tookie" Williams, 51, is the focus of California's fiercest battle over capital punishment since the state reinstated the penalty in 1977. With a Dec. 13 execution date looming, supporters of Williams, including rapper Snoop Dogg, are stepping up protests. Los Angeles County

District Attorney Steve Cooley calls the prisoner a "cold-blooded killer" who has "steadfastly refused to take any responsibility" for his crimes.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-11-21-crips-clemency\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-11-21-crips-clemency_x.htm)

**16. CA: 8 indicted on human-smuggling charges (Washington Times, 25 Nov 2005)**

Eight members of a California-based ring suspected of bringing as many as 100 illegal aliens a month into the United States have been indicted by a federal grand jury after a two-year investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). ICE spokeswoman Jamie Zuieback said Wednesday that among those charged was the man suspected of leading the organization, Emilio Mayorales, 42, who was arrested at his Anaheim, Calif., residence. Also under indictment is Mauro Perez, 49, proprietor of the Aero Paris travel agency in Anaheim, Ms. Zuieback said. According to the indictment, Mr. Perez obtained plane tickets for the smuggling organization's clients, knowing the tickets were being used by illegal aliens.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://washingtontimes.com/national/20051124-114725-2705r.htm>

**17. CT: Lawmakers take aim at identity theft (The Stamford Advocate, 22 Nov 2005)**

HARTFORD - A law to combat the electronic theft of credit-card information will be introduced in the legislature next year. A group of state lawmakers and other officials gathered yesterday to announce a bill that would limit access to electronic scanners that gather the information from the magnetic strip on the back of credit cards. No state laws restrict the use of the devices or attach penalties for their misuse.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L24A2143C>

**18. IN: At least 2 inquiries are under way into rings that push people into prostitution, slavery (IndyStar, 28 Nov 2005)**

A false promise of a \$500-a-week baby-sitting job lured illegal immigrant Marlene Harpi from New York City to Indianapolis four years ago. But when she arrived here, the job turned out to be quite different. Police say Harpi was held in a Westside Indianapolis brothel and forced to have sex with at least 15 to 20 men a day. Two Hispanic teenage girls, who like Harpi had been recruited from New York, were also prisoners of the prostitution ring. Police and prosecutors say they suspect such cases of human trafficking, which usually involves forced prostitution or labor, are increasing in Indiana's poorer immigrant communities. They have assembled a task force to help overcome cultural and language barriers so they can prosecute ringleaders and rescue victims.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?Y31D25B3C>

**19. MD: Identity theft bills to come up in Assembly (Gazette.net, 22 Nov 2005)**

Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran Jr. plans to ask the legislature to pass two bills in the upcoming session to help protect personal identification from being stolen. One bill would require businesses to notify customers immediately if their personal

identification information has been stolen. It also would require companies to take security measures such as computer encryption and shredding documents. The other bill would allow people to instruct credit bureaus to restrict access to their credit rating reports to make it harder for identity thieves to open new credit card and bank accounts in another person's name.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.gazette.net/stories/112205/montcou182214\\_31895.shtml](http://www.gazette.net/stories/112205/montcou182214_31895.shtml)

**20. MD: Residents should prepare for worst (Hagerstown Herald-Mail, 27 Nov 2005)**

WASHINGTON COUNTY - Alerting Washington County residents about a large-scale disaster would be a problem during an emergency, according to Stoyan Russell, the county's emergency planner. Radio broadcasts, which Russell said could be pointless during a power outage, and door-to-door alerts - impossible during some hazardous materials incidents - would be the county's main vehicles for alerting residents to leave their homes. If they are forced to evacuate, Russell said, residents would be expected to have prepared "go bags" filled with enough supplies to last each family member for at least three days. He said he believes most people are prepared. If not, "that's your problem," he said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.herald-mail.com/?module=displaystory&story\\_id=125439&format=html](http://www.herald-mail.com/?module=displaystory&story_id=125439&format=html)

**21. MA: Venezuela to Provide Discounted Heating Oil to Low-Income Massachusetts Residents (AP, 22 Nov 2005)**

QUINCY, Mass. - Thousands of low-income Massachusetts residents will receive discounted home heating oil this winter under an agreement signed Tuesday with Venezuela, whose government is a political adversary of the Bush administration. A subsidiary of Venezuela's state-owned oil company will supply oil at 40 percent below market prices. It will be distributed by two nonprofit organizations, Citizens Energy Corp. and the Mass Energy Consumer Alliance. The agreement gives President Hugo Chavez's government standing as a provider of heating assistance to poor U.S. residents at a time when U.S. oil companies have been reluctant to do so and Congress has failed to expand aid in response to rising oil prices.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=1338597>

**22. MI: Smuggling suspect rejects plea deal - He is accused of being ringleader in plot to force illegal immigrants to work in Metro strip clubs (The Detroit News, 22 Nov 2005)**

LIVONIA - Federal immigration authorities have detained a Greek national in connection with a widening investigation into the smuggling and mistreatment of eastern European women in Metro Detroit, who were forced to work at local strip clubs. On Monday, the alleged ringleader, Aleksandr Maksimenko of Livonia, rejected another plea deal that would have allowed him to serve as little as 12 1/2 years in prison. U.S. District Judge Victoria A. Roberts allowed Maksimenko to fire his attorney, Cornelius Pitts, after she ruled the two had a significant breakdown in the attorney-client relationship. She also

refused to allow Maksimenko to read a six-page letter that detailed some of his grievances in the nine months he has been in custody.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.detnews.com/2005/wayne/0511/22/B02-389689.htm>

**23. NJ: Another 'enforcer' for smuggling ring implicates ringleaders (Newsday.com, 22 Nov 2005)**

NEWARK, N.J. - A second admitted "enforcer" of a human smuggling ring recounted Tuesday how one of his captives, found to be pregnant, was told to take an abortion-inducing drug and endured hours of cramps before delivering a live girl into a toilet. Jose Nahun Rosales Rosales said in court that a boss of the enterprise spoke of disposing of the infant and concealing the birth, but the baby died before an ambulance arrived, federal prosecutors said Tuesday. The detail on the birth in a Guttenberg apartment, which had been disclosed in a June indictment, came as Rosales, 35, pleaded guilty to one count of harboring some of the young Honduran women who had been smuggled into the United States. He admitted enforcing house rules while the girls worked at bars in Union City to repay smuggling fees of \$10,000 to \$20,000.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?S1081243C>

**24. NJ: Shredding identity theft (NorthJersey.com, 27 Nov 2005)**

Consumers will gain strong new protections when New Jersey's Identity Theft Prevention Act takes effect Jan. 1, but businesses and institutions are facing headaches and added expenses. Social Security numbers will be out as all-purpose identification numbers, forcing businesses, colleges, unions, insurance companies, police departments and other public agencies to purge files and shred documents. Those maintaining computer databases will be required to act quickly and publicly in case of security breaches under the new law - among the strongest in the nation.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?P27113A3C>

**25. TN: Local schools gear up safety (The Mountain Press, 25 Nov 2005)**

Two schools in the Knoxville area were the victims of unfortunate separate incidents recently, involving a fatal shooting at one and the presence of a firearm at the other. It brings the age-old question of whether Sevier County schools would be prepared for the worst. Pigeon Forge High School got a first-hand experience in September, as a student was apprehended and arrested for bringing a 9mm pistol into the school, thanks to the efforts of students who notified officials that the student had the pistol in his possession.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?K45E22B3C>

**26. TX: Man sentenced to 24 years in railcar smuggling deaths case (AP, 22 Nov 2005)**

HOUSTON - The accused leader of a South Texas smuggling ring was sentenced Monday to more than 24 years in prison for his role in the 2002 train car deaths of 11 illegal immigrants. Juan Fernando Licea-Cedillo bought information about train

schedules from Arnulfo Flores Jr., a former Union Pacific train conductor, so he could know when to put immigrants on trains northbound from the Rio Grande Valley. Earlier this month Licea-Cedillo tried to withdraw his guilty plea to conspiring to transport and harbor illegal immigrants, but U.S. District Judge Kenneth Hoyt on Monday determined his plea would stand and handed down a term of 24 years and four months.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=local&id=3656131>

**27. WA: Editorial - Bomb Threat Assessment Team tackles difficult issue (The Tomah Journal, 25 Nov 2005)**

Bomb threats -- something any idiot can do. That sums up the Tomah School District's problem with bomb threats and the disruptions they cause. There have been 11 bomb threats and 11 evacuations (all at Tomah High School and Tomah Middle School) since the start of the school year Sept. 1, and there's a sense of frustration and powerlessness among administrators, teachers, staff and students. Those aren't irrational feelings. A bomb threat is something that requires virtually nothing in the way of skill, knowledge or planning. Anyone with a rudimentary knowledge of the English language can make a phone call or scrawl a note that explicitly or implicitly threatens to blow up a school building. Last week, the Tomah School Board authorized a Bomb Threat Assessment Team. The team, which consists of school administrators and law enforcement personnel, will review the credibility of each bomb threat and consider whether every threat warrants an evacuation.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?B14B52B3C>

**28. WI: Hazardous material response (Rhineland Daily News, 28 Nov 2005)**

Health care professionals get training for possible disaster Large chemicals spills or, worse yet - bioterrorism attacks - are things many people prefer not to think about. For Lance Powers, preparing for such events are his daily stock and trade. As the hazardous materials response instructor at Nicolet College, it's part of his job to teach a cadre of hospital and emergency services personnel how to safely and effectively deal with the unthinkable. "It's critical for people who respond to such events to know what to do," Powers says. "They need to know how to treat people who have been exposed to chemical agents and also how to keep themselves safe from any dangerous materials that may be on the patient." Recently, Powers led a two-day class at Saint Mary's Hospital in Rhineland to teach staff there and from other area hospitals how to quickly and safely respond to chemically contaminated patients who show up at the hospital. "It was just amazing how much we learned," said Jennifer Wagner, emergency room health unit coordinator at Eagle River Memorial Hospital. "Having a set of guidelines to follow - knowing what to do and in what order - is incredibly valuable. This is the type of training that makes you stop and think instead of just rushing in to help."

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.rhinelanddailynews.com/articles/2005/11/28/news/local\\_news/news.txt](http://www.rhinelanddailynews.com/articles/2005/11/28/news/local_news/news.txt)

**KEY PEOPLE**

**29. CO: New FBI boss rapidly builds network (The Denver Post, 28 Nov 2005)**

The boxes in his new office may not have been unpacked, but Richard Powers has been making the rounds. The new special agent in charge of the Denver FBI office has had coffee and conversation with local politicians, sheriffs, police chiefs and prosecutors across the state and in Wyoming. This is what Powers, most recently from Washington, sees as the nitty-gritty work of building a network in the law enforcement community, a web of cooperation necessary to accomplish the FBI's ever-growing list of duties after the 2001 terrorist attacks.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci\\_3257737](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_3257737)

**30. IL: TSA Names Mark Haught as Federal Security Director at O'Hare International Airport (PRNewswire, 22 Nov 2005)**

CHICAGO - The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) today named Mark Haught as the Federal Security Director (FSD) at O'Hare International Airport (ORD). As FSD, Mr. Haught is also the responsible for overseeing all of the airports in the State of Illinois. "This selection formalizes the leadership team at ORD. Mark's skill set and experience is key to the success of our overall operations and we know he will continue to do great things in Chicago," said Central Area Director Leopoldo Vasquez. Haught has been Acting Federal Security Director at ORD for six months. Prior to joining TSA, he was assigned as Deputy Assistant Director for the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) in Washington DC.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/051122/dctu027.html?.v=31>

**31. New Jersey and Indiana Civil Support Teams Certified (DoD, 28 Nov 2005)**

The Department of Defense notified Congress today that Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (WMD-CSTs) from the New Jersey and Indiana National Guard are now certified. These teams are fully ready to assist civil authorities respond to a domestic weapon of mass destruction incident, and possesses the requisite skills, training and equipment to be proficient in all mission requirements. They are the 21st WMD-CST, stationed at Fort Dix, N.J. and the 53rd WMD-CST, stationed at Indianapolis, Ind. The teams certified today are part of the 12 teams authorized in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for fiscal 2004. All 32 of the teams authorized in fiscal 1999, 2000, and 2001 have already been certified. This brings the total certified teams to 34. Congress has authorized 55 WMD-CSTs. Twelve teams were authorized in fiscal 2004 and are nearing completion of the certification process. Eleven teams were authorized in fiscal 2005, completing the Congressional mandate to field at least one team in every state, territory, and the District of Columbia. These final teams will be certified by November 2006.

**GANG ACTIVITY**

**32. IA & NE: Over 45 Criminal Aliens Nabbed in Gang Sweep (The Conservative Voice, 27 Nov 2005)**

More than 45 gang members and associates in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa were arrested since Operation Community Shield was launched in February. Of those arrested, 35 have been deported by ICE detention and removal officers. Operation Community Shield is an ongoing national Immigration and Customs Enforcement anti-gang initiative designed to disrupt, dismantle, and prosecute street gang members and their organizations. From the operation's beginning through the end of October, ICE has arrested more than 1,600 gang members and associates nationwide.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.theconservativevoice.com/articles/article.html?id=10273>

### **33. AR: Anti-Gang Unit Begins Work (The Morning News, 26 Nov 2005)**

ROGERS - The Rogers crime-suppression unit made several arrests last weekend in the first of what are planned to be regular saturation patrols in high-crime areas.

Concentrating on three general areas -- the Doubletree Apartments on West Easy Street, the Henry Hills subdivision in east Rogers, and the area around the Frisco Station Mall and the former Kmart store -- the eight-officer unit made 26 misdemeanor arrests and eight felony arrests over three different nights. Cpl. Kelley Craddock, the department's spokesman and a member of the unit, said the uniformed officers spent four to six hours on three different occasions patrolling in high-crime areas on foot and in marked police cars. "We don't want any confusion about who we are and what we are doing," Craddock said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L66D23B3C>

### **34. MN: Fewer Homicides After Increased Gang Focus (AP, 27 Nov 2005)**

Minneapolis - An intensive two-month strategy for fighting gang violence in Minneapolis led to a reduction in homicides, police reported, though other violent crimes continue to increase. Police ramped up their gang-fighting efforts over the summer and said it resulted in a reduction in homicides. While there were eight homicides during July and August, that was four fewer than during the same period last year. The Minneapolis Strategic Safety Partnership was created in July, at which point the city had had 11 more homicides than at the same time the year before.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://wcco.com/crime/local\\_story\\_331103618.html](http://wcco.com/crime/local_story_331103618.html)

### **35. NJ: 7 suspected gang members arrested in Lakewood raid (Asbury Park Press, 22 Nov 2005)**

LAKEWOOD - Cecelia Norwood grew up on Ashley Avenue, a small neighborhood of single-family homes just outside the downtown that was once home to working-class families. But drug dealers, gang members and a neighborhood pattern of violence have chased Norwood and most of her former neighbors away. So Norwood was pleased to hear that a Saturday morning raid by federal immigration authorities found seven suspected gang members — all allegedly from MS-13, a notoriously violent gang from Central America — living at 109 Ashley Ave., just a few doors down from her old home.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051122/NEWS/511220319>

**36. NC: Gang activity growing in New Hanover Co. (WWAY, 22 Nov 2005)**

Investigators say gang activity in New Hanover County is growing. So far about 200 gang members have been identified in local schools. Now, law enforcement is going to county leaders for help to get the trouble makers out and to keep others from getting in. "Graffiti is often a marking of territory, and now efforts are being made to prevent the gang presence in schools," County Commissioner Nancy Pritchett said. "We started working in the schools because the gangs were recruiting the children, and obviously we wish to protect the children."

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.wwaytv3.com/Global/story.asp?S=4149722>

**37. VA: Opinion - Ganging up. In going after gangs, the best way is to go all together (Daily Press, 26 Nov 2005)**

Say "gang" and what comes to mind is LA-style Crips and Bloods. Or, increasingly, imports such as the machete-wielding MS-13, which is giving law enforcement officials statewide such a scare. But gangs can also be homegrown, taking their identity from their territory. So long as they're inclined to fight to defend or expand that territory, so long as they recruit young members to maintain and increase their ranks, so long as they're involved with crime, drugs, guns, predation and violence, they're gangs. Make no mistake, there are gangs in this area. Not just in the cities, but in rural areas and towns, too. Smithfield knows this all too well, as it winds up the grim job of convicting the men involved in killing a child struck by a bullet let loose in a shootout between local gangs.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?A2BC33B3C>

**38. Gang violence key issue in Honduran vote (Reuters, 27 Nov 2005)**

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras - Hondurans voted for a new president Sunday choosing between a hardliner who wants to recall the death penalty to curb gang murders and a liberal who would bolster security to stop the terror trail. Clamping down on tattooed youth gang members known as "maras," who are behind a wave of beheadings, eye gougings, rapes and other violence, is the key election issue in this poor Central American nation. Porfirio Lobo, a father of 11 children who practices the tae kwon do martial art in his spare time, has spearheaded a drive to bring back capital punishment after almost 60 years to end the slayings. Rural strongman Lobo, of the ruling National Party, led in opinion polls in the run up to the elections, several points ahead of Manuel Zelaya, a logging magnate, who espoused a more lenient line to stop the gang violence.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/WORLD/americas/11/27/honduras.reut/>

**39. Italy: 42 arrested in Mafia swoop (ANSA, 22 Nov 2005)**

Caltanissetta - A Sicilian politician was charged on Tuesday with Mafia ties as part of a major police swoop on the southern island which led to 42 arrests . Vincenzo Giannone, the head of the town council of Riesi near Caltanissetta, was arrested on Monday night along with the other suspects in a major operation involving more than 300 Italian police and troops and two helicopters . Prosecutors said Giannone, a member of junior

government party the UDC, played a key part in facilitating the council's control by local Mafia clans . Last week, Sicilian regional government member Davide Costa was arrested for allegedly helping local Mafia bosses.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://ansa.it/main/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2005-11-22\\_1908280.html](http://ansa.it/main/notizie/awnplus/english/news/2005-11-22_1908280.html)

#### **40. South Korea: Curb foreign gangs (The Korea Herald Editorial, 28 Nov 2005)**

Korea has rarely been the home or major outpost of international organized crime. But we must not be complacent any more as notorious foreign gangs are extending their tentacles here, apparently taking advantage of the nation's growing wealth and the steady increase of foreign population. There have been scattered cases of crimes involving foreign and Korean members of international gangs such as Japanese yakuza, Russian mafia and Chinese Triad Society. A recent report by the National Intelligence Service, however, is truly alarming in that it shows these crime organizations are vigorously expanding their operations in the country. The NIS said a yakuza gang bought a hotel in July in the name of a Korean-Japanese. The agency believes that at least eight yakuza groups are operating in the country, some of them in alliance with local gangsters. A Russian mafia gang established a fisheries company in Busan in the form of a joint venture as long as two years ago. It is also disturbing to hear that there are at least 20 mafia gangs involved in fisheries businesses here.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/SITE/data/html\\_dir/2005/11/28/200511280006.asp](http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/SITE/data/html_dir/2005/11/28/200511280006.asp)

### **NARCO TRAFFICKING**

#### **41. Meth use, seizures on the rise - Federal officials catching more at Mexican border (The Monitor, 27 Nov 2005)**

HIDALGO — Federal law enforcement agents are arresting more people at Hidalgo County international bridges smuggling Mexican-made methamphetamine into this country, something clearly backed up at local drug treatment programs. Easily manufactured with accessible ingredients in homemade laboratories, methamphetamine, commonly called meth, is a highly addictive drug that has reached epidemic proportions in some parts of the country. Crystal meth, a purer form and stronger form of the drug than the powder version, can be inhaled by smoking, and is particularly popular among young clubgoers. But as law enforcement agents around the country crack down on clandestine meth labs, the prevalence of Mexican-made meth is growing nationally with Mexican criminal organizations increasingly trafficking the drug, according to the National Drug Intelligence Center. Most of the Mexican-made methamphetamine comes into this country through Arizona, where authorities confiscated more of the drug in 2003 than from California and Texas combined, according to the center's National Drug Threat Assessment 2005 Executive Summary.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?X2F115A3C>

#### **42. CA: War on Drugs intensifies gang violence (Conor Fridersdorf, San Bernardino Staff Writer, 27 Nov 2005)**

Did illegal drugs help kill Mynesha Crenshaw? In a town where gangs finance their operations through the drug trade, a business where territorial wars and deals gone bad are settled at gunpoint, can illegal drugs ever be ruled out when innocents are slain by wayward bullets? Every lengthy discussion about violent crime eventually includes an argument about the War on Drugs, for better or worse the most consequential law enforcement effort in America. On The Sun's crime blog, some San Bernardino residents have said the police must prosecute the War on Drugs more vigorously to protect innocents trapped in neighborhoods with drug-running gangs, marijuana sales at school and abusive addict parents and spouses plaguing home life. Other residents have suggested that the War on Drugs is itself part of the problem. Make narcotics legal, they say, and the violence associated with their illicit purchase will vanish much like the repeal of prohibition ended the violent trade in alcohol.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci\\_3255585](http://www.sbsun.com/news/ci_3255585)

**43. CO: Undercover cops announce cocaine busts in Glenwood (Aspen Daily News, 21 Nov 2005)**

The Two Rivers Drug Enforcement Team (TRIDENT) busted an alleged cocaine-distribution ring on Friday. Undercover TRIDENT officers began buying cocaine in October from Glenwood Springs resident Jaime Herrera Jurado, 25, according to a TRIDENT press release. From October through half of November, undercover police allegedly purchased 41.2 grams of cocaine from Jurado. Jurado was arrested on a \$100,000 distribution warrant during a traffic stop in the 800 block of Cooper Avenue in Glenwood Springs with the assistance of the Glenwood Springs Police Department. The passenger of the vehicle, Juan Barragan-Valerio, 28, was detained and later found to be in possession of 15 grams of cocaine packaged for distribution, the TRIDENT press release says.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.aspendailynews.com/article\\_11630](http://www.aspendailynews.com/article_11630)

**44. FL: Confiscated Cocaine Unloaded In Bay Area (Tampa Tribune, 28 Nov 2005)**

ST. PETERSBURG - Eighty-nine bales of cocaine confiscated off the coast of Colombia last month were unloaded Monday at Bayboro Harbor. The contraband, estimated to be worth at least \$22 million, is just the latest to be transported to the Tampa Bay area by a Coast Guard cutter, said Danielle DeMarino, a coast guard spokeswoman. The drugs were found aboard a 30-foot so-called go-fast vessel on Oct. 28, roughly 80 miles north of Bocas Del Toro, Colombia, DeMarino said. The H.M.S. Cumberland, a British Royal Navy ship working with a coast guard law enforcement detachment, intercepted the vessel, with a helicopter crew shooting out the boat's engine to stop it from speeding away, DeMarino said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://news.tbo.com/news/MGBL9IL5LGE.html>

**45. NH: Cocaine sale nets probation (Berkshire Eagle, 22 Nov 2005)**

PITTSFIELD - A North Adams man was sentenced to three years of probation in Berkshire Superior Court yesterday for selling cocaine to an undercover officer two years

ago. James C. Young, 50, pleaded guilty before Judge Daniel A. Ford to one count of distribution of cocaine. Ford placed Young on probation on the condition that he refrain from drug or alcohol use, undergo counseling and pay a \$100 drug assessment fee and a \$90 victim/witness assessment fee.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.berkshireagle.com/localnews/ci\\_3241831](http://www.berkshireagle.com/localnews/ci_3241831)

**46. NM: Youth Club Employee Arrested On Cocaine Charges (The New Mexico Channel, 27 Nov 2005)**

SANTE FE, N.M. - A 42-year-old employee of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Fe was put behind bars on Saturday. Police said when they arrested Thomas Mayes on Wednesday, they found four children in the van he was operating and, allegedly, 60 grams of cocaine.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.thenewmexicochannel.com/news/5411909/detail.html>

**47. OK: Narcotics Agents Intercept Cocaine Shipment Near El Reno (AP, 22 Nov 2005)**

OKLAHOMA CITY - State narcotics agents intercept a cocaine shipment near El Reno. Mark Woodward -- a spokesman for the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs -- says about 30 kilograms of cocaine was found in a tractor-trailer on Interstate 40 near El Reno about 5 PM Monday. Woodward says that during a routine traffic stop, agents assigned to a highway interdiction team released drug-sniffing dogs around the truck. He says after a dog indicated a find, agents searched the vehicle and found bundles of cocaine hidden in the trailer section. Woodward says it was mostly likely a cross-country shipment that wasn't destined for Oklahoma.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.kotv.com/main/home/stories.asp?whichpage=1&id=94083>

**48. TX: \$2.4 Million in Cocaine, Meth Seized in Brownsville (KGBT4.com, 28 Nov 2005)**

A Mexican national is arrested at the Los Indios Bridge after federal agents find \$2.4 million in cocaine and methamphetamine. U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents say they conducted a secondary search on a 1997 Ford pickup driven by Armando Trevino of Poblado Realito, Mexico. With the help of drug dog "Andre" agents found 126 pounds of cocaine and 40 pounds of methamphetamine hidden in the rear side panels of Trevino's truck. "This is a significant combination load of hard narcotics at the Brownsville Port of Entry," said CBP Port Director Margie Gutierrez.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.team4news.com/Global/story.asp?S=4174709&nav=0w0v>

**49. WV: Small Cities, Big Drug Problems? State Troopers say drug use is on the rise in Preston County. (WOWK, 28 Nov 2005)**

When you think of drug problems, you probably think primarily about bigger cities. But small towns, are also dealing with drugs. 12 News spoke to Trooper Isaac Harmon with the West Virginia State Police in Kingwood. He says there's a problem with all types of

drugs, but especially crack-cocaine. He says there's a vast network of people involved in the drug ring in Preston County: drug dealers, traffickers, and users. Trooper Harmon says the State Police get about five complaints per week about drugs. But troopers have to deal with so many other reports and tasks, that it's hard for them to be as aggressive as they'd like. He says it's also hard to say exactly why there's been such an increase in crack-cocaine use.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://wowktv.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=6964>

**50. Canada: Cocaine dealer gets 10 years - Vietnamese refugee used family members to operate drug network (The Edmonton Journal, 26 Nov 2005)**

EDMONTON - A judge sentenced a 51-year-old Vietnamese refugee Friday to 10 years in prison for his role in a cocaine trafficking operation that brought 4.5 kilograms of the drug into the city. "It was not a large operation," Justice Brian Burrows, of the Court of Queen's Bench, said as he sentenced Thanh Lam. "The amount of cocaine was large, but I have seen larger." Lam's part in the operation was to buy cocaine from distributors in British Columbia and bring it to Edmonton. He would then sell it to his son-in-law and his son-in-law's brother, using his daughter as a go-between. "They prepared the cocaine for sale through street sellers," Burrows said of the two men.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H10F52B3C>

**51. Canada: Big cocaine bust (Edmonton Sun, 26 Nov 2005)**

Red Deer RCMP arrested two people Thursday after stumbling across three kilograms of cocaine worth an estimated \$300,000 during a traffic stop. Mounties pulled over a white Ford F-150 to investigate a complaint of stolen tools. They found the drug cache in the truck during their search. "It's a big amount of drugs for Red Deer," said Const. Kent Dahl. "The officers were quite surprised considering they were only looking for stolen tools."

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.edmontonsun.com/News/Alberta/2005/11/26/1324948-sun.html>

**52. Tobago: No bail for Dutchman on cocaine charge (Newsday, 22 Nov 2005)**

A citizen of the Netherlands Antilles, who was allegedly held with a little more than four kilogrammes of liquid cocaine at Crown Point Airport last Friday evening, was denied bail when he appeared in the Scarborough Magistrates' Court yesterday. Edsel Hubertus de Camps appeared before Senior Magistrate Annette McKenzie in the First Court charged by police with possession of 4.696 kilogrammes of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking. He is also facing a Customs charge of attempting to export a prohibited substance. De Camps was reportedly held by members of the Organised Crime and Narcotics Unit (OCNU) in Tobago, in collaboration with customs preventive officers, as he was preparing to board a Martin Air flight to Amsterdam, Holland, about 8.15 pm on November 18.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.newsday.co.tt/stories.php?article\\_id=30928](http://www.newsday.co.tt/stories.php?article_id=30928)

### **53. Survivor Panama Set Against Backdrop Cocaine Investigation (Noriegaville, 25 Nov 2005)**

The death of Carlos Arango Duque, a former associate of Colombian druglord Castrillon Henao, in a plane crash last Thursday also ends an advanced investigation by the drugs prosecutors' office into his cocaine trafficking and money laundering activities. Sources within the public ministry have confirmed the investigation to Noriegaville on condition of anonymity. The investigation had been conducted together with the North American Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). One source told us that "there were plenty people who wanted him dead. He had a lot of enemies." Officially, the public ministry announced yesterday that they would start an investigation into the cause of the mysterious plane crash. It is not known yet what will happen with the assets of Arango. One source suggested that the Panamanian authorities may seize them as part of the wrap-up of the money laundering and cocaine trafficking investigation.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?W52F35B3C>

### **54. Guyana: Copters key to drug war – expert (Stabroek News, 28 Nov 2005)**

Cocaine coming into the country is being air-dropped into remote areas and a key hindrance to snaring shipments is the lack of mobility - particularly helicopters - a leading drug-fighting expert says. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, the expert told Stabroek News that the demand for cocaine on the street is minimal as most drug users utilise marijuana. As it is, the local drug users can hardly afford to buy cocaine on the streets and most turn to marijuana. He pointed out that one kilogramme of cocaine is almost US\$4,000 and while drug users would buy cocaine some of them can only afford the cheaper marijuana. But there are those who actually buy small amounts and break it down for it to be smoked and sell it much cheaper. While there has been a problem with the drug Ecstasy in recent times the source does not believe it is a major problem as it is very expensive and could be more termed a designer drug as only the rich can afford it. It is mostly sold at nightclubs and it is believed that the tablets are accessed through Suriname, a former colony of Holland, where according to the source the bulk of Ecstasy is produced.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.stabroeknews.com/index.pl/article\\_general\\_news?id=37344784](http://www.stabroeknews.com/index.pl/article_general_news?id=37344784)

### **55. Bermuda: Retrial of alleged cocaine smuggler begins in Supreme Court (The Royal Gazette, 22 Nov 2005)**

A Honduran T-shirt manufacturing expert was flown to Bermuda to testify in the trial of an alleged drug mule. The first trial of Patrick Stamp, 20, of Middle Town Road, Pembroke, ended on April 7 when a jury member was seen talking with Stamp's family members outside court. In Supreme Court yesterday, Stamp continued to deny importing 664.87 grams of cocaine with an estimated street value of \$168,750 into the Bermuda International Airport on January 7, 2003. The cocaine was found in four packages of Hanes T-shirts in Stamp's luggage. Christian Soto, plant manager at the San Pedro Sula factory in Honduras which produces and exports Hanes T-shirts to the US, agonised over the seized T-shirts as he examined their origins.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?F2181443C>

**56. 7 tons of cocaine seized in Portugal (UPI, 26 Nov 2005)**

LISBON, Portugal - Portuguese police have seized more than 7 tons of cocaine and arrested six people, including a Frenchman under investigation in Spain for money laundering. The Spanish Interior Ministry said that Michel Curtet has a house in Marbella, which has been searched, Sky News reported. His bank accounts have also been frozen.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?M2B141A3C>

**57. Drug flow in Greece shoots up (Kathimerini, 26 Nov 2005)**

Greece has become a significant drug-trafficking hub as seizures of some drugs increased by almost 500 percent last year, according to figures released by the police's drugs squad yesterday. In its annual report, the drugs squad's coordinating body indicated that the amount of illegal substances confiscated in Greece last year had risen substantially from previous years. Authorities seized some 1.15 million kilos of cocaine last year, compared to just over 200,000 kilos in 2003 — a rise of 474 percent. The drugs had an estimated street value of 9.2 billion euros. Seizures of heroin were also up last year, although not as dramatically as in the case of cocaine. Police confiscated almost 334,000 kilos of heroin — a rise of some 35 percent from the previous year.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://www.ekathimerini.com/4dcgi/\\_w\\_articles\\_politics\\_100010\\_26/11/2005\\_63435](http://www.ekathimerini.com/4dcgi/_w_articles_politics_100010_26/11/2005_63435)

**58. Pakistan: ANF foils smuggling bid, arrests 8 drug peddlers ((PakTribune, Tribune, 28 Nov 2005)**

RAWALPINDI, November 29 (Online): The Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Rawalpindi foiled different attempts to smuggle drugs and recovered heroin worth millions of rupees from the possession of eight drug peddlers.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.paktribune.com/news/index.php?id=126738>

**59. Thailand, Cambodia plan joint anti-drug smuggling campaign (People's Daily Online, 25 Nov 2005)**

Thailand and Cambodia will launch a joint campaign to combat drug smuggling across their common border, according to a senior Thai anti-narcotics official. The move is in response to a shift by traffickers away from more traditional smuggling routes across Thailand's borders with Myanmar and Laos. Office of Narcotics Control Board secretary general Pol Lt Gen Krissana Polanant was quoted by the Thai News Agency as saying Friday that his agency will host the first meeting of authorities from both countries on Dec. 1 and 2 in Pattaya, east of Bangkok, to discuss policy issues and planning for the joint anti-drug operation.

ZGram Suggested URL:

[http://english.people.com.cn/200511/25/eng20051125\\_223886.html](http://english.people.com.cn/200511/25/eng20051125_223886.html)

## **CYBERTHREAT & THEFT**

### **60. Feds, industry must team to fight vulnerabilities (FCW, 23 Nov 2005)**

Government and industry must cooperate to keep new vulnerabilities from entering computer systems, an information security expert recommends. Collaboration is essential to keep new weaknesses from spreading and make the Herculean task of finding all the malicious software already out there more manageable, said Alan Paller, director of research at the SANS Institute, a training and education organization for security professionals. "The big, untold story about federal computers is the number of systems that have already been penetrated," Paller said. Unknown amounts of malicious software is observing federal data and copying and sending it to unauthorized users, he said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article91535-11-23-05-Web>

### **61. Identity Theft: Shocking Statistics (Bank Info Security, 22 Nov 2005)**

Think identity theft is the work of faceless cyber-crooks from foreign countries? Think again. Almost half of all ID theft is committed by relatives or close friends of the victim, new research shows. The surprising information comes from a recent poll of 4,000 consumers conducted by a group led by the Better Business Bureau. And sadly, it makes sense that those closest to you enjoy the easiest access to your bank records, credit-card statements, and Social Security number. The report found that victims have had property deeds, insurance policies, beneficiary change forms, utility bills, and even their wills stolen by family members bent on ID theft.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://bankinfosecurity.com/node/2686>

### **62. E-voting group invited to hack machines (FCW, 23 Nov 2005)**

Critics of Diebold's electronic voting machines will get a chance next week to prove their contention that the systems could be vulnerable to attack. California's Secretary of State has challenged Black Box Voting to try to hack the TSx machines that Diebold is trying to get California to certify. The testing is set for Nov. 30. Black Box is an advocacy group that bills itself as an e-voting watchdog. California officials decertified the TSx machines in 2004. However, after Diebold made some improvements, state officials performed further testing and concluded earlier this month that the system meets California's current standards, according to a report provided by Black Box.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fcw.com/article91533-11-23-05-Web>

### **63. Boeing advises ways to foil identity theft (Grand Forks Herald, 22 Nov 2005)**

Boeing is advising current and former employees on steps they should take to prevent possible identity theft after a Boeing computer containing employees' personal information was stolen recently. The computer held personal information on about 161,000 current and former Boeing employees. It was stolen from a non-Boeing site. Information on the computer included names, Social Security numbers and, in some cases, bank routing numbers, bank account numbers and home addresses. It did not contain credit card or account passwords.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?L26252A3C>

**64. Missourians Warn of "Jury Duty" Identity Theft Scam (Kansas City infoZine, 22 Nov 2005)**

Several states have reported the emergence of the scam, including Alaska, Arizona, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington. Jefferson City, Mo. - Attorney General Jay Nixon and the Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) warned Missourians that bogus calls are circulating from individuals posing as officers of state and federal courts in an attempt to steal personal information that can be used for identity theft. Typically, the scammer will call an individual claiming they work with a federal or state court and will inform the intended victim that he or she failed to show up for jury duty. After threatening arrest, the caller will then ask for confidential information - such as a Social Security number, date of birth and credit card number - which they will then use to make purchases, obtain cash, raid bank accounts or even take out loans.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/11556/>

**RESOURCES**

**65. Military Support to Civilian Authorities: An Assessment of the Response to Hurricane Katrina (by Alane Kochems, The Heritage Foundation Backgrounder #1899, 28 Nov 2005)**

Immediately after Hurricane Katrina struck, criticism began about how slow the federal response was. However, response timelines from other, similar natural disasters show that the military arrived at least at its typical speed. There are three lessons that one can learn from this response.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/HomelandDefense/bg1899.cfm>

**66. Surviving bioterror - IU booklet tells you how to be prepared (The Courier-Journal, 28 Nov 2005)**

Did you know that drinking from the bathroom toilet tank is safer than the tap in the event of a bioterror attack? That sick pets and dead wildlife may signal that bio-warfare is under way? Morbid stuff, but in our era of color-coded terror alerts and natural disasters that put large populations in survival mode, it may pay to stay alert and be prepared.

Now, students at Indiana University in Bloomington have produced "Bioterrorism and Me," a survival guide for the average person, that emergency management officials are applauding and helping distribute.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?J1FE16B3C>

**67. Measuring Progress Against Terrorism - Congressional Research Service Report (Contributed by Steven Aftergood, Federation of American Scientists, www.fas.org)**

There is a temptation to evaluate progress in the war on terrorism by using parameters that lend themselves to numerical measurement: the number of terrorists killed or detained, the quantity of enemy assets confiscated, the growth in budgets for homeland security, etc. But because terrorism is a complex and multi-dimensional problem, such simple quantitative measures may be misleading, according to a new report from the Congressional Research Service. Some attacks on terrorists may exacerbate the threat and enhance terrorist recruitment, while increased resources devoted to security could be considered a self-imposed economic injury. The new CRS report, which was first disclosed in the Wall Street Journal, explains the problem and describes some alternatives. See "Combating Terrorism: The Challenge of Measuring Effectiveness," November 23, 2005.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/terror/RL33160.pdf>

## EVENTS

### **68. Australia to co-host bioterror workshop (The Age, 28 Nov 2005)**

Australia and Indonesia will co-host a second regional workshop on the Biological Weapons Convention in a bid to further reduce the threat of bioterrorism. Defence Minister Robert Hill said the workshop, to be held in Indonesia early next year, followed a preliminary workshop held in Melbourne in February. Senator Hill said it was part of ongoing efforts to reduce the possibility of terrorists acquiring and using biological weapons. It also aims to prevent regional nations from inadvertently helping the development of biological weapons programs elsewhere.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://makeashorterlink.com/?H2EE12B3C>

## FULL REPORTS

### **69. Fact Sheet: Securing America Through Immigration Reform (White House, 28 Nov 2005)**

#### **Today's Presidential Action:**

**Today, President Bush Outlined The Strategy To Enhance America's Homeland Security Through Comprehensive Immigration Reform.** Addressing the Customs and Border Protection agents stationed in southern Arizona, the President discussed the strategy to secure the border, prevent illegal crossings, and strengthen enforcement of immigration laws. The President also proposed to take pressure off the border by creating a Temporary Worker Program that meets the economy's demands while rejecting amnesty for those who break America's laws.

- **Securing The Border Is Essential To Securing The Homeland.** Since he took office, the President has increased funding for border security by 60 percent. Border agents have apprehended and sent home more than 4.5 million people coming into

the country illegally including about 350,000 with criminal records. The U.S. border must be open to trade and tourism and closed to criminals, drug dealers, and terrorists.

### **The President Will Work With Congress To Pass And Sign Into Law**

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform.** Comprehensive immigration reform is a top priority for the Administration. Already, Congress is making great strides and has a chance to move forward on a strategy to enforce immigration laws, secure America, and uphold the Nation's deepest values. The President will continue working with Congress so that he can sign a comprehensive immigration reform bill into law in 2006.

### **The President's Strategy For Comprehensive Immigration Reform**

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform Begins With Securing The Border.** To secure the border, the President is pursuing a three-part plan.

- **First, The U.S. Will Return Every Illegal Entrant Caught Crossing The Southwest Border With No Exceptions.** More than 85 percent of apprehended illegal immigrants are from Mexico, and most are immediately escorted back across the border within 24 hours. To prevent them from trying to cross again, the Federal government is using interior repatriation whereby Mexican illegal entrants are returned to their hometowns, making it more difficult for them to attempt another crossing. This approach is showing great promise. In a West Arizona desert pilot program, nearly 35,000 illegal immigrants were returned to Mexico through interior repatriation, and only about 8 percent turned up trying to cross the border in that sector again. The Administration is working to expand interior repatriation to ensure that when those who violate the country's immigration laws are sent home, they stay home.

#### **The Administration Is Ending The Practice Of "Catch And Release."**

Because detention facilities lack bed space, most non-Mexican illegal immigrants apprehended are released and directed to return for a court appearance. However, 75 percent fail to show. Last year, only 30,000 of the 160,000 non-Mexicans caught coming across our Southwest border were sent home. Addressing this problem, the President has signed legislation increasing the number of beds in detention facilities by more than 10 percent over the next year. The Federal government is also using "expedited removal" to detain, place into streamlined judicial proceedings, and deport non-Mexican illegal immigrants in an average of 32 days almost three times faster than the usual procedure. Last year, more than 20,000 non-Mexicans caught crossing the border between Laredo and Tucson were deported using expedited removal. The use of expedited removal is now being expanded across the entire Southwest border. When illegal immigrants know they will be caught and sent home, they will be less likely to cross illegally in the first place.

**The Administration Is Taking Further Steps To Accelerate The Removal Process.** The U.S. is pressing foreign governments to take back their citizens more promptly, while streamlining bureaucracy and increasing the number of flights carrying illegal immigrants home. Testing these steps, "Operation Texas Hold 'Em" along the Rio Grande Valley of the Texas Border recently resulted in Brazilian illegal

immigration dropping by 90 percent in the Rio Grande Valley and by 50 percent across the entire border. These efforts are helping change a policy of "catch and release" to a policy of "catch and return."

- **Second, The Administration Will Work With Congress To Reform Immigration Laws.** The President is seeking to eliminate senseless rules that require the government to release illegal immigrants if their home countries do not take them back in a set period of time. Among those the government has been forced to release are murderers, rapists, child molesters, and other violent criminals. The President is also working with Congress to address the cycle of endless litigation that clogs immigration courts, rewards illegal behavior, and delays justice for immigrants with legitimate claims. Lawsuits and red tape must not stand in the way of protecting the American people.

- **Third, The Federal Government Will Act To Stop People From Illegally Crossing The Border In The First Place.** The Administration is increasing manpower, technology, and infrastructure at the Nation's borders, and integrating these resources in innovative ways.

**Increasing Manpower.** Since 2001, 1,900 Border Patrol agents have been added, and the President has signed legislation allowing the addition of another 1,000 agents in the year ahead. When the hiring is completed, the Border Patrol will have been enlarged by about 3,000 agents from about 9,500 when the President took office to about 12,500 next year. This is an increase of more than 30 percent.

**Deploying New Technology.** The Administration is giving Border Patrol agents the tools to expand their reach and effectiveness including unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and infrared cameras. In Tucson, agents using UAVs to patrol the border have improved their interception of illegal immigrants and drugs on the border. Legislation signed by the President is providing \$139 million to further upgrade technology and bring a more unified, systematic approach to border enforcement.

**Constructing Physical Barriers To Entry.** The President has signed legislation providing \$70 million to install and improve protective infrastructure across the border. In rural areas, the government is constructing new patrol roads to give agents better access to the border and new vehicle barriers to keep illegal immigrants from driving across. In urban areas, the government is expanding fencing to shut down human smuggling corridors. The Administration recently authorized the completion of a 14-mile barrier near San Diego. Once held up by litigation, this project is vital to helping border agents do their jobs and make those who live near the border more secure.

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform Requires Improved Enforcement Of Immigration Laws Within The United States.** Catching and deporting illegal immigrants along the border is only part of protecting the American people. Our immigration laws must be enforced throughout America.

- **The Federal Government Is Improving Worksite Enforcement.** The President has signed legislation that more than doubles the resources dedicated to worksite enforcement. The government is placing a special focus on enforcement at critical infrastructure. This year, Operation Rollback the largest worksite enforcement case in American history resulted in the arrest of hundreds of illegal immigrants, criminal convictions against a dozen employers, and a multi-million dollar payment from one of America's largest businesses. Worksite enforcement is critical to the success of immigration reform.

**To Help Businesses Comply With Immigration Laws, The Government Is Addressing Document Fraud.** Even the most diligent employers find it difficult to spot forged employment documents and verify workers' legal status. So the Administration is expanding the Basic Pilot program enabling businesses to screen the employment eligibility of new hires against Federal records. Since 2001, this program has expanded from only six states to now being available nationwide. The Administration will work with Congress to continue to improve employment verification.

- **The President Has Committed The Resources Necessary To Enforce Immigration Laws.** Since 2001, the Administration has increased funding for interior enforcement by 44 percent; increased the number of immigration and customs investigators by 14 percent; and new funding will allow for an additional 400 immigration enforcement agents and 250 criminal investigators. These skilled officers are getting results. In Arizona alone, 2,300 people have been prosecuted for smuggling drugs, guns, and illegal immigrants across the border. Operation Community Shield has resulted in the arrest of nearly 1,400 illegal immigrant gang members including hundreds of members of violent gangs like "MS-13." Since the creation of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), agents have apprehended nearly 27,000 illegal immigrant fugitives.

**As Part Of Comprehensive Immigration Reform, The President Has Proposed The Creation Of A New Temporary Worker Program.** To match foreign workers with American employers for jobs that no American is willing to take, temporary workers will be able to register for legal status for a fixed time period and then be required to return home. This plan meets the needs of a growing economy, allows honest workers to provide for their families while respecting the law, and relieves pressure on the border. By reducing the flow of illegal immigrants, law enforcement can focus on those who mean this country harm. To improve worksite enforcement, the plan creates tamper-proof I.D. cards for every legal temporary worker.

- **A Temporary Worker Program Would Not Provide Amnesty.** The program does not create an automatic path to citizenship or provide amnesty. The President opposes amnesty because rewarding those who break the law would encourage more illegal entrants and increase pressure on the border. A Temporary Worker Program, by contrast, would promote legal immigration and decrease pressure on the border. The President supports increasing the annual number of green cards, but for the sake of justice and security, the President will not sign an immigration bill that includes amnesty.

**By Reforming Immigration Laws, The United States Will Preserve The Promise Of America.** Immigrants play a vital role in strengthening American democracy. This is a land in which foreigners who respect the laws are welcomed as contributors to American culture not feared as threats. The United States has been strengthened by generations of immigrants who became Americans through patience, hard work, and assimilation. Like generations of immigrants that have come before them, every new citizen has an obligation to learn this Nation's customs and values. At the same time, America will fulfill its obligation to give each citizen a chance to realize the American dream. By enforcing immigration laws, the Federal government is protecting the promise of a tolerant, welcoming America and preserving opportunity for all.

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