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North Dakota Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Summary



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners. If you have any comments to improve this summary or local information you would like to see in the summary please send the information to; kihagel@nd.gov

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QUICK LINKS

North Dakota

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National

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Commercial Facilities

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Critical Manufacturing

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NORTH DAKOTA

(North Dakota) First security breach ever at Hector delays flights. TSA was forced to shut down its security screening checkpoint at Hector Airport. The incident occurred after a passenger coming off a flight walked back through a door he just came through. A young passenger arriving here at Hector with his family, coming off the flight, and walking thru the exit and into the terminal, then he changed his mind and decided he needed to use the bathroom so he walked back thru the exit without being screened. According to passengers, TSA guards yelled “breach” and closed the gates. “Out of an abundance of caution, the restroom area was swept and the passenger was released with negative findings,” said a TSA spokesman. According to some passengers, TSA officials used mirrors to check beneath the screening equipment before allowing screenings to begin following the hour long delay. The breach shut down TSA screening leaving about 200 waiting in line and delaying two flights. Only Delta reported delays. United, Frontier, and Allegiant were not affected. Source:

<http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/30832/>

REGIONAL

(Minnesota) Newport not allowing reinforcement of flood levees. The levee system in Newport, Minnesota, is in such poor shape, officials are not allowing residents to fortify it with sandbags. The city administrator said, “The levee became and is unstable so the last thing we want to do is put additional weight on the levee and have people standing out there on the levee.” The levee system is the only thing holding the Mississippi River in its banks. It was built in 1971 as a temporary fix and has since deteriorated. He said the city is providing sand and bags for residents to use around their homes. And, the city is giving regular updates on flood stages. “From an operations management standpoint we are doing what we can. We are protecting the residents the best we can,” said the administrator. Residents are hoping the city is right. But some still have concerns. Under one proposal, the city would purchase up to a dozen homes in the next few years and build a permanent levee system. Source: <http://kstp.com/news/stories/S1460458.shtml?cat=206>

(Montana) UGF beefing up security following shooting near university housing complex. The University of Great Falls (UGF) is beefing up security following a shooting near a university housing complex. UGF has moved all students out of the apartment where the shooting took place. They have also brought on additional security guards and increased patrols in the area. They were assessing the situation before they allow the students to move back in. A spokeswoman from the University of Great Falls says, “With different things that have happened nationwide, we’ve done what we can to prepare ourselves. Our student safety is very important to us. We just want to be vigilant in what we do and how we can help them and keep them safe.” UGF does not have an emergency text message alert system but officials say the Emergency Task Force on campus is always looking for ways to improve safety measures. Source: <http://www.kfbb.com/news/local/87285562.html>

(Minnesota) Minnesota launching massive gas line safety initiative. The state of Minnesota may launch one of the largest natural gas safety initiatives in the country, following last month’s house explosion in St. Paul. The state fire marshal said Wednesday night that his office may order sewer inspections across the state to look for mislaid gas lines. The project could take more than two years, and use sewer crews from across the country. Still, even that may not be enough. The fire marshall said Minnesota has more than 40 other gas distribution systems, and the Department of Public Safety may order all of them to check their systems for similar problems. Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2010/03/11/gas-line-inspections/>

(Minnesota) Breckenridge declares state of emergency. After a public flood meeting Monday, the Breckenridge City Council convened in a special session to approve a resolution to declare a state of emergency. Because the flooding potential is high, they also approved two requests for assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — advance measures and flood emergency assistance. During the flood meeting, a Wilkin County engineer informed more than 50 people that water may begin to flow next week with the predicted weather. He said there is no full-fledged crest prediction yet and there will not be until the Red River hits flood stage. Currently, White Rock Dam is releasing 1,100 cubic feet per second and Orwell Dam by Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is releasing 900 cfs, said the engineer. “Just for comparison, Orwell last year was at 2,000 cfs due to the amount [of water] coming through,” he added. The diversion outside Breckenridge carries 65 percent of the water coming from the Otter Tail River, preventing at least 1 foot from entering Breckenridge. The diversion was built for

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an 18 foot, 3,300 cfs capacity. Last year, it held 20 feet and 5,000 cfs. He said the county has 130,000 sandbags stockpiled in a county shop across from Cenex in Breckenridge ready to be filled when needed. He wants to hold off as long as possible, but said they may start filling next Monday. Since permanent diking is not completed on the north side of Breckenridge yet, both the north and south sides of the Otter Tail River will have temporary dikes built and along the Red River. Finally, the city has been working to get all pump stations in working order. Many electrical panels and motors had to be completely reworked. The Public Works director said some will be finished March 9, others are will not be completed until March 22. Source:

<http://www.wahpetondailynews.com/articles/2010/03/09/news/doc4b96b3e0c1483861759512.txt>

(Minnesota) Web threats prompt lockdown of Minneapolis schools. The Minneapolis School District has locked down all of its schools after police informed officials of vague threats posted on the Web. A district spokeswoman says the threats were posted on two social networking sites. The threats did not specify a school, so they were all put on alert. She says the 34,000 students in the district continue to go to class on Wednesday, but access to the buildings is restricted. The lockdown started Wednesday morning, and she says it is not clear how long it will last. She says the district has notified parents with its automated telephone system. Another announcement will go out when the district knows more. She says the Minneapolis Police Department is investigating. Source:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,588728,00.html>

(Montana) Suspicious powder found in mail in Helena. The Department of Labor and Industry in Helena, Montana, received a scare through the mail on March 9, which shut down part of the Capitol area for most of the day. Helena fire, police, as well as the National Guard Civil Support Team responded to the incident. At about 9 am March 9 an envelope was opened that produced a suspicious white powder on the third floor of the Department of Labor and Industry building, which is just across the street from the Capitol. A public information officer said they wanted to be very cautious on approaching the substance and try to identify it as soon as possible, which is why the haz mat team was notified. 180 people work in the building, they were not evacuated. However, 35 employees on the third floor were moved to another part of the building. Three workers, plus a Helena officer were isolated because they all came within close proximity of the substance. The Bureau Chief of Communicable Disease reminded everyone of the white powder that was going around not too long ago. He said the main concern was anthrax or other chemical contaminants. Shortly after 2 p.m., the National Guard Civil Support team, who specializes in biological chemicals, did emerge from the building and deemed the substance unharful. Source:

<http://www.kfbb.com/news/local/87173267.html>

(Minnesota) Sophisticated Minnesota fraud ring has global tentacles. A joint state and federal task force has been quietly targeting what investigators say is a sophisticated organized crime ring in the Twin Cities with about 200 members who have allegedly stolen identities, taken over bank and credit card accounts, distributed counterfeit checks and currency and defrauded businesses and banks nationwide. The ring recruits members on social networking sites like Facebook, buys stolen information from employees of check-cashing services and Internet data brokers, and has even sent trusted ring members to college and business schools to qualify them for jobs in financial institutions or other targeted businesses, investigators say. Some members have been charged, but neither the commander of the Minnesota Financial Crimes Task Force nor the U.S. attorney's office would comment on specific cases. The ring is rooted in West Africa and Eastern Europe, the commander

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said. Taking it down could disrupt 30 to 40 percent of the fraudulent check activity in the Twin Cities, he said. Source:

<http://www.startribune.com/local/87038372.html?elr=KArksD:aDyaEP:kD:aUzyaUiD3aPc: Yyc:aU7DY aGEP7vDEh7P:DiUs>

NATIONAL

Outdoor lighting fixtures recalled for shock hazard. American Electric Lighting, a division of Acuity Brands Lighting Inc. of Conyers, Georgia, in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, has issued a voluntary product safety recall for about 900 outdoor lighting fixtures because improper wiring in the light fixtures poses a shock hazard. CPSC says consumers should stop using the products immediately and contact American Electric Lighting to schedule a free inspection and repair. The recall involves model AVL outdoor lighting fixtures. The light fixtures are intended for use in parking lots, roadways, commercial environments, and office communities. "AVL" is printed on the reflector of each light fixture. The units were sold by electrical distributors and electrical sales representatives nationwide from September 2008 through September 2009 for between \$250 and \$800. The company has received no reports of incidents or injuries from the light fixtures. Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2010/03/07/outdoor-lighting-fixtures-recalled-for-shock-hazard.aspx?admgarea=news>

INTERNATIONAL

Greece hit by strikes, riots over austerity plan. Serious street clashes erupted between rioting youths and police in central Athens on March 11 as some 30,000 people demonstrated during a nationwide strike against the cash-strapped government's austerity measures. Hundreds of masked and hooded youths punched and kicked motorcycle police, knocking several off their bikes, as riot police responded with volleys of tear gas and stun grenades. The violence spread after the end of the march to a nearby square, where police faced off with stone-throwing anarchists and suffocating clouds of tear gas sent patrons scurrying from open-air cafes. Rioters used sledge hammers to smash the glass fronts of more than a dozen shops, banks, jewelers and a cinema. Youths also set fire to rubbish bins and a car, smashed bus stops, and chopped blocks off marble balustrades and building facades to use as projectiles. Some private bank branches were open despite calls from the bank employees' union to participate in the strike. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iXUJvBknZVGqsBenlusBgBvWj5WQD9ECFIJ8>
[1](#)

Buckle in for the cyber 'wilderness of mirrors'. Within the European Union and NATO, security professionals have been circulating dire warnings to colleagues regarding the growing cyber espionage threat from China. In recent months, the Chinese have appeared to more aggressively target NATO, EU, and U.S. networks in an effort to steal intelligence secrets. Within the EU, cybersecurity is left up to individual member states and is not comprehensively coordinated. On Friday, the U.S. government released a report stating that the number of attacks on government agencies and Congress amounts to approximately 1.6 billion per month. According to NATO sources who spoke with the London Times, "Everyone has been made aware that the Chinese have become very active with cyber-attacks and we're now getting regular warnings from the office for internal

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security.” Due to the fear of Chinese cyber penetration, the flow of intelligence information has become much more restricted within the EU and NATO. While U.S. and British systems are considered to be among the most secure in the world, an analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies says that “the EU is less competent.” “The porousness of the European institutions makes them a good target for penetration. They are of interest to the Chinese on issues from arms sales and nuclear non-proliferation to Tibet and energy,” he said. The U.S. and other EU nations do not share intelligence with the same frequency as the U.S. and British. “Because of Britain’s intelligence-sharing relationship with America our systems have to be up to their standards in a way that some of the European systems don’t,” an analyst told the Times. With the anonymity and ease of access provided by cyberspace, espionage work is increasingly moving towards utilizing the cyber domain to steal secrets. Cyberspace has become the new “wilderness of mirrors.” Source: <http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2010/03/08/buckle-in-for-the-cyber-hall-of-mirrors/>

Thailand approves credit card hacker’s extradition to US. A Thai court has approved the extradition to the U.S. of a Malaysian man allegedly involved in hacking credit card information, causing massive losses for victims in the U.S. The suspect will first be held in Thailand for 30 days in case he decides to appeal the court ruling, an employee at Thailand’s Office of the Attorney General said by phone on March 8. The suspect, forty-four years old and also known by the alias Delpiero, is a suspected member of a crime ring that has caused more than 5 billion baht (US\$150 million) in losses through hacking aimed at the U.S. and Southeast Asia, according to a report in the Bangkok Post. The man was arrested in Thailand after U.S. authorities filed a request with the Thai foreign ministry, the report said. He could be imprisoned for over a year if convicted, the paper said in another report. Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/030810-thailand-approves-credit-card-hackers.html?hpg1=bn>

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

(Florida) Suspect threatens blowing up Miami bank. Police are searching for a suspect who walked into the Miami Dade Bank of America located in the 200 block of SW 127 on Thursday afternoon and threatened to detonate an explosive device if not given cash. Police are still searching for the suspect. Two tellers at the bank were confronted by the suspect wearing a dark blue cap and sunglasses. He told one of the tellers in Spanish, “Give me the money or I’ll blow up the bomb.” According to Miami Dade Police, the other teller who was nearby hearing the suspect’s demands attempted to walk away and get help. The suspect noticed and ordered her to return. He repeated his demands and pulled out what appeared to be a detonating device and dynamite sticks. After seeing this, the first teller complied placing money in a plastic bag and handing it over. He was last seen fleeing on foot east on Quail Roost Drive. Source: <http://www.examiner.com/x-41025-Miami-Crime-Examiner~y2010m3d10-Suspect-Threatens-Blowing-Up-Bank>

Phishing update: ‘No brand is safe’. Online fraud schemes and malware are casting an even wider net, far beyond the large national banks and well-known retailers, as phishers seek new victims. This is the word from the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG), which has just issued its latest quarterly report on phishing trends. According to the APWG’s fourth quarter 2009 report, the number of hijacked brands hit a record 356 in October, compared to the previous record month of 341 in August 2009. No brand, no matter how small or obscure, is safe from online fraud says the APWG’s secretary general. “Once, only the largest banks were targeted,” he says. “Now every kind of enterprise from

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banks and credit unions of all sizes to charities to, in a recent case, a hardware manufacturer, are seeing their brands exploited in all manner of fraud schemes.” This report backs up reports of businesses receiving phishing emails asking for recipients to take action or update their banking online passwords, as in the case of the Comerica Bank phishing lawsuit. Source:

http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2277

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(Tennessee) Meth explosion outside Walmart results in arrests. Two men attempting to make methamphetamine were arrested Tuesday evening after a small explosion outside a Nashville Walmart. Just before 5 p.m., shoppers reported a blast outside the store located along Murfreesboro Road in Antioch. Officers arrived and found a container in a pickup truck had exploded and was leaking anhydrous ammonia. One officer was treated at the scene after inhaling some of the gas. Another person was transported to the hospital but was released. Part of the parking lot was blocked off for several hours as authorities cleaned up what they are calling a mobile meth lab. Two men were arrested on drug and weapons charges. Investigators said that when the explosion happened, the two were inside the store shopping for other ingredients needed to make meth. Source:

<http://www.wsmv.com/news/22796270/detail.html>

US aid group attacked in NW Pakistan; 6 dead. Suspected militants armed with grenades attacked the offices of a U.S.-based aid group helping earthquake survivors in northwestern Pakistan on Wednesday, killing six employees and wounding several others, police and the organization said. All the victims of the assault on World Vision, a major humanitarian group, were Pakistanis. He said about 10 gunmen took part in the raid. The attack seriously damaged the aid group’s office, leaving the ground strewn with rubble and the concrete walls pockmarked with bullet holes, AP Television News footage showed. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hkiMxbHNNH0BqgpWA2ZG6VD6wVTmAD9EBPU200>

(Connecticut) Bomb scare clears downtown buildings. Officials immediately evacuated the Omni Hotel in New Haven, Connecticut, the restaurants across the street, and the Liberty apartment building on Temple Street after the hotel received a bomb threat by phone. Police did find a “suspicious package” in the garage but “they concluded that the briefcase was not an explosive device. A thorough sweep of the premises was conducted by technicians and three K-9 units, which produced negative results for the presence of an explosive device.” Around 7 p.m. police gave the all-clear. Employees and guests returned to the hotel. Temple Street was reopened to traffic. About 30 employees and 35 guests were inside the hotel at the time of the afternoon threat, according to Omni’s General Manager. It was a slow day for the Omni; no conventions were scheduled. And the threat came in at a time of day when last night’s guests had departed and many of the next night’s guests had not yet arrived, the manager said. He said the Omni expected to be up to a third full Monday night, with around 100 guests. Source:

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http://newhavenindependent.org/index.php/archives/entry/bomb_scare_clears_downtown_buildings/id_24325

(Florida) Bomb scare. The 19-year-old University of Central Florida theater student whose fake bomb led to the evacuation of the Hollywood 16 movie theater has been released from the Marion County Jail after posting a \$5,000 bond, and a top prosecutor said he is not sure what his office will do with the case. He was arrested Saturday on a charge of manufacturing, possession, and display of a hoax weapon of mass destruction. The bogus bomb, which he created for a UCF theater class, consisted of five tightly wrapped sticks of “dynamite” attached with wires to a white timing device. Police later confirmed the student’s story with his instructor. “It’s the times we live in. He just didn’t think about it,” the student’s father said. “I am hoping they realize that and throw it out of court, hopefully.” If prosecuted and found guilty of the second-degree felony charge that police lodged, then the student, who grew up in Ocala, could face up to 15 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Police say the student displayed the realistic-looking fake bomb to a friend Saturday afternoon outside Hollywood 16.

Source:

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20100309/ARTICLE/3091064/2072/FEATURES?Title=Bomb-scare>

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

Data issue hits BlackBerry devices for second day. Some BlackBerry users are complaining of an inability to use data services for the second day in a row. It appears that the issue could be related to two separate problems. While some users seemed to be back in business late on March 9, others were still having problems. Research In Motion does not appear to have commented on the problem and had not replied to a request for comment by the time this story posted. Via Twitter, T-Mobile has acknowledged that there is an issue. “We are working with Research In Motion to resolve the outage as quickly as possible,” it said in a recent Twitter message. One of the problems seems to be affecting some users of BlackBerry phones that have Wi-Fi capability, although the problem does not affect those users when they are connected to Wi-Fi networks. Instead, those users have trouble using data services when they are on mobile networks. That’s according to a user report on the Data Outages forum. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9168358/Data_issue_hits_BlackBerry_devices_for_second_day

DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE SECTOR

(Connecticut) Connecticut highlights new Air National Guard engine repair facility. The Connecticut Governor celebrated the groundbreaking for an \$8.3 million, federally funded military jet engine repair facility at the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby. The Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility (CIRF) will handle tests and troubleshooting for jet engines from A-10 Thunderbolt II ground-attack aircraft from all over the world. The A-10 – an extremely durable twin-engine, straight-wing jet mounting a rapid-fire gun – has seen action in both Iraq and Afghanistan. The project will improve and expand an existing TF-34 engine repair facility in East Granby as part of decisions made under the 2005 BRAC process. The CIRF will be a 36,000-square-foot facility. The new CIRF mission requires a second test location, so a T-9 Engine Test Cell is being relocated from another Air National Guard unit and will be installed on the new foundation being constructed at Bradley and expected to

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be completed the middle of this year. This facility will bolster the unit's current capability to test and troubleshoot engines sent in by operational A-10 squadrons from around the globe and will provide state-of-the-art facilities for the 103rd Airlift Wing's maintenance personnel. Source:

http://thegovmonitor.com/world_news/united_states/connecticut-highlights-new-air-national-guard-engine-repair-facility-25693.html

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

Toyota denies Prius recall is in the works. Toyota has issued a statement denying media reports that it plans a new recall of the 2004-2009 Prius to address the potential risk for floor mat entrapment of accelerator pedals. "There is no new recall being planned for the Prius to address this issue," the company said in a statement Tuesday. The company said the 2004-2009 Prius was part of Toyota's November 2, 2009 announcement of a voluntary safety recall campaign to address floor mat entrapment in certain Toyota and Lexus vehicles. The remedy process for these vehicles began at the end of 2009 and is occurring on a rolling schedule during 2010, Toyota said. Owners of the involved vehicles that have not yet been remedied are asked to take out any removable driver's side floor mat and not replace it with any other floor mat. But the driver of that 2008 Prius involved Monday in the highly publicized runaway car incident on the San Diego Freeway says the floor mat had nothing to do with the uncontrolled acceleration in his car. The man's Prius took him on a terrifying 30 minute ride when he accelerated to pass a car and the car kept gaining speed, even though he pressed on the brakes. The man said he immediately looked down to see if the pedal was caught on the floor mat and said it was not. It is worth noting that ConsumerAffairs.com reported in 2007 that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration was "aware of" complaints of runaway acceleration in the popular Toyota Prius hybrid and at the time, said they were in a "monitoring mode." "It is currently like dozens, or maybe hundreds, of other issues of this kind," an agency official said at the time.

Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2010/03/toyota_denial.html

Toyota says no flaw found with safety electronics. Toyota Motor Corporation on Monday sought to discredit an outside study critical of its electronic safety systems and said it had found no flaw with its throttle controls. The conclusions, which were announced at a news conference, marked an attempt by the automaker to reassure consumers it has safety issues under control as it works to win back sales seven weeks into a recall crisis that has tarnished its reputation. Toyota called the event to discredit what it said were mistaken conclusions being drawn from a study of its accelerator controls by an auto engineering expert at Southern Illinois University. Unintended acceleration in Toyota and Lexus vehicles has been linked to at least five U.S. crash deaths since 2007. Authorities are investigating 47 other crash deaths over the past decade. The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has also said it is looking into more recent complaints from drivers who say they suffered acceleration problems even after their vehicles were fixed in the recent recall effort. Those complaints have been seen by some as further evidence that Toyota could face a problem with vehicle electronics or software that could go beyond the mechanical fixes it has announced under its recalls. But a Toyota spokesman said the automaker had found that post-recall accelerator complaints appeared to reflect a small number of cases where repairs at dealerships had not been performed correctly. The university researcher told a congressional panel in late February that he had found a way to simulate a flaw in Toyota's accelerator controls so that the vehicle could surge forward without a fault code being generated for an onboard computer Toyota has designed as a safeguard. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0819040820100308>

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Ford Motor rolls out new security features to prevent car-hacking. Automobile giant Ford Motor this year will debut vehicles with built-in WiFi — along with enhanced security features to prevent data breaches via its new cars. Ford has offered the so-called Sync technology service it co-developed with Microsoft in most of its Ford, Lincoln, and Mercury vehicles since 2008. The technology lets drivers run their Bluetooth-enabled mobile phones and digital media players via their vehicles and use voice commands to operate them, for instance. The automaker announced on March 8 that the second generation of its Sync technology — due out later this year and to include a full Windows CE operating system with a new driver interface called MyFordTouch — will come with a built-in browser and secured WiFi access. The WiFi will be broadcast via Sync using a USB-based modem, and Ford has updated its on-board firewalls to protect both the WiFi network as well as the vehicle's operations. The WiFi network is set by default to WiFi Protected Access 2 (WPA2) encryption for secured access to the wireless network. It also will provide anti-malware protection for the MyFordTouch system.

Source:

http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability_management/security/client/showArticle.ihtml?articleID=223200163

(California) Cop helps slow runaway Toyota Prius going 94 mph on California highway with 'stuck' accelerator. A California highway police officer helped slow a runaway Toyota Prius from 94 mph to a safe stop on Monday after the car's accelerator became stuck on a freeway near San Diego, authorities said. The Prius driver said that the incident Monday occurred just two weeks after he had taken the vehicle in to an El Cajon dealership for repairs after receiving a recall notice, but he was turned away. "I gave them my recall notice and they handed it back and said I'm not on the recall list," the man said. In a statement, Toyota said it has dispatched a field technical specialist to San Diego to investigate the incident. Toyota has recalled some 8.5 million vehicles worldwide — more than 6 million in the United States — since last fall because of acceleration problems in multiple models and braking issues in the Prius. On Monday, the driver called 911 about 1:30 p.m. after accelerating to pass another vehicle on Interstate 8 near La Posta and finding that he could not control his car, the California Highway Patrol said. "I pushed the gas pedal to pass a car and it did something kind of funny ... it jumped and it just stuck there," the 61-year-old driver said at a news conference. "As it was going, I was trying the brakes ... it wasn't stopping, it wasn't doing anything and it just kept speeding up," he said, adding he could smell the brakes burning he was pressing the pedal so hard. A patrol car pulled alongside the Prius and officers told Sikes over a loudspeaker to push the brake pedal to the floor and apply the emergency brake. "They also got it going on a steep upgrade," said an officer "Between those three things, they got it to slow down." After the car decelerated to about 50 mph, the driver turned off the engine and coasted to a halt. The officer then maneuvered his car in front of the Prius as a precautionary block. Source:

http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/2010/03/09/2010-03-09_cop_helps_slow_runaway_toyota_prius_going_94_mph_on_california_highway.html

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(New York) Big ax looming at the FDNY: Threat of 1,000 layoffs, closing of 62 fire companies. The New York Fire Department (FDNY) will be forced to close a staggering 62 fire companies and lay off more than 1,000 firefighters if the bad-news state budget becomes reality, it's commissioner told the City Council Wednesday. "We would be very, very taxed," he warned. "Our operations would be

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impacted and every neighborhood in this city would feel the effect.” Even if lawmakers in Albany - already facing an April 1 deadline and a \$9 billion budget gap - find a way to pump in more cash, the city’s fiscal woes may still force the FDNY to shutter 20 companies, he warned. Sixteen fire companies were set to close last year until the Council restored funding for an extra 12 months. But those companies - which were never identified - are still slated to close this July, and an additional four are scheduled to be shut down later in the year, creating a savings of \$37.4 million. The department currently has 198 engine companies and 143 ladder companies. Source:

http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/03/11/2010-03-11-big-ax-looming-at-the-fdny-threat-of-1000-layoffs-closing-of-62-fire-companies.html

(Iowa) Brief case causes bomb scare at Polk County jail. There was a bomb scare at the Polk County, Iowa, jail Monday. The Polk County Sheriff’s Department says the bomb squad was called to the jail just after 3 p.m. over a suspicious brief case. The department says a person who was arrested and brought to the jail had the brief case with them. Jail officials became concerned after putting the brief case through an x-ray machine. Employees and visitors were evacuated from the jail while the bomb squad examined the brief case and determined it was not a bomb. Officials are not saying what caused them to become suspicious, and have not identified the person who brought the brief case to the jail. Source: <http://www.radioiowa.com/2010/03/09/brief-case-causes-bomb-scare-at-polk-county-jail/>

ATF’s bomb arson tracking system endorsed by IAAI and IABTI. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Sunday announced that its Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS) has been endorsed by the International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc. and the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators to document and report arson and explosives-related incidents in this country. Both organizations recently notified ATF of their unanimous decisions to endorse the use of BATS by all of its members. “BATS is the sole database for reporting and documenting explosives incidents, as recognized by the Department of Justice,” said ATF’s deputy director. “In partnership with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, this case management system strengthens our ability to identify investigative leads in real-time and allows law enforcement to share information and to track and bring criminals to justice.” BATS users can input and access information during the course of an investigation. They can conduct trend analysis and compare incidents to identify potential perpetrators. Professional fire and arson investigators and their agencies can use BATS as a tool, and to participate in providing incident information which will assist other investigators and agencies as they conduct the investigation of bombing, explosives, and arson incidents. The system is of value to all law enforcement professionals charged with combating the criminal and terrorist use of explosives worldwide. Source:

<http://www.atf.gov/press/releases/2010/03/030810-atf-bats-endorsed.html>

ENERGY

Nothing Significant to Report

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

CDC traces outbreak with shopper cards. As of March 2, 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) counted a total of 245 individuals infected with the outbreak strain of Salmonella

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Montevideo in 44 states. Among the 2,500 serotypes of Salmonella, according to the CDC, Montevideo is in the top 10 most common serotypes. Because the main Salmonella Montevideo outbreak is so common in the United States, public health investigators had an extremely difficult time detecting the source of the outbreak. However, during its investigation, CDC employed a unique and novel technique that enabled it to trace the source of the bacteria—shopper cards used across the country by millions of Americans. Initially, CDC and public health officials were able to identify a possible source by conducting a study comparing foods eaten by 41 ill and 41 well persons. The results suggested salami as a possible source of illness, with data showing ill persons were significantly more likely to eat salami than well persons in the days before they became ill (58% v. 16%). From there, investigators sought permission from customers to track their grocery purchases using shopper cards, and then asked supermarkets and grocery stores about specific buying information. The trail led them to Daniele International Inc., a Rhode Island-based company manufacturing and distributing Italian-style salami. Source:

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/03/cdc-traces-outbreak-with-shopper-cards/>

(Nevada) Company continued to sell tainted ingredient after finding salmonella, FDA inspectors say. The company responsible for a ballooning recall of processed foods continued to manufacture and distribute a flavor-enhancing ingredient for a month after tests confirmed it was made with contaminated equipment, according to a Food and Drug Administration report. FDA inspectors said the company, Las Vegas-based Basic Food Flavors Inc., knew of salmonella contamination on its equipment after it received the results of a private inspection on January 21. They said the company continued to distribute the ingredient, called hydrolyzed vegetable protein (HVP), until February 15. The FDA began an investigation of the company in response to a report from one of Basic Food Flavors' customers about salmonella contamination. After a February visit to the plant, agency inspectors reported finding "light brown residue" and "dark brown liquid" in and around the paste mixers and inside pipes used to manufacture the ingredient. The agency said the company began notifying customers of the recall on February 26 after discussions with the government. It was publicly announced by the FDA a week later. No illnesses have been associated with the recall, according to the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control. Source:

<http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-us-processed-foods-recall,0,4873103.story>

(Florida) Florida cold crimps local produce: 70% of Sunshine State's tomatoes destroyed. Some businesses are seeing an increase in the cost of tomatoes due to cold temperatures at the beginning of the year in Florida, which produces the nation's largest supply of the crop during winter months. The president and CEO of the New Hampshire Grower's Association said there has been a short-term increase in the price of the bulbous fruit because 70 percent of the Sunshine State's crop was destroyed by weather. The tomatoes that did survive have frost burns, he said, and this has forced many area wholesalers and retailers to look to nations like Mexico to supplement their needs, which drives the cost of the product due to added transportation costs. "People are quickly learning there is a shortage (of U.S.-grown tomatoes)," he said. "They realize they need to change their needs or pay a higher price for tomatoes." The co-owner of Fiddlehead Farms in Dover, New Hampshire and the store's main produce buyer said he has seen the cost of tomatoes more than double in the last month because there is not as much of a supply of the homegrown product. The president of the Grower's Association said he expected prices to return to normal come mid-to-late April, which is when the next growing season starts. Source:

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http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100309/GJNEWS_01/703099915/-1/FOSNEWS

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(Indiana) Grenade prompts evacuation of Ind. school. Authorities in Kosciusko County, Indiana, say a school was evacuated during a fire alarm after a dummy grenade was found by a student. The Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department said the grenade found in a student's backpack Monday at Milford School in Milford, Indiana, was non-functional, The (Fort Wayne, Indiana) Journal Gazette reported Tuesday. Deputies said officials at the school learned of the grenade after the 14-year-old who owned the backpack showed the explosive device to a fellow student. The Milford School student that had the grenade was suspended for 10 days. The student, whose identity was not released, told authorities he was given the dummy grenade by a family member. The Sheriff's department spokesman said the teen will not face any criminal charges for possessing the grenade, the Journal Gazette reported. "There's no law about having an inert device like that," the spokesman said. "It's against the school policy." Source: <http://www.globe-democrat.com/news/2010/mar/10/grenade-prompts-evacuation-of-ind-school/>

Bogus intranets scam university students. Universities and their population of students have been marked as the next soft target by online criminals, security company RSA has reported. In recent weeks, the company has detected a sudden rise in targeted attacks on U.S. universities — particularly public state institutions — against internal Web sites used to serve students with services such as webmail. Such servers often contain personal data such as grades, names, addresses, and payment information. The company offers screenshots from one attack in its February Online Fraud Report, that of a bogus Web site purporting to belong to an unnamed university. It is not clear how a student would have found such a site assuming a direct URL was already in existence, but any student logging into what appeared to be the official webmail site would have had their data harvested. RSA is unsure as to the specific motivation for the hacks, but speculates that gaining access to an internal server could serve various purposes, including launching phishing attacks that impersonate official communication, gaining access to personal data to launch identity theft attacks at a later date, or setting up student loan scams. Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9167978/Bogus intranets scam university students](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9167978/Bogus_intranets_scam_university_students)

(Wisconsin) Students evacuated after another bomb threat. More than 200 students were evacuated Tuesday afternoon from a Cornell, Wisconsin, school. The superintendent says the building was emptied shortly after noon. The Cornell Police and Fire Departments responded, and cleared the building about 45 minutes later. District leaders believe they know who left the note and that an expulsion hearing could happen later this month. The student who allegedly left the threat was a 7th grader. On January 12th, a bomb threat at the same school canceled all evening activities. Around that same time, there were three bomb threats in one week at the Lake Holcombe K-12 school. Source: <http://www.wgqow.com/Global/story.asp?S=12111364>

(Utah) IRS building evacuated due to suspicious package. An IRS building in downtown Salt Lake City was evacuated on March 9 after a suspicious package was found. Two-hundred East between South

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Temple and 300 South, which surrounds the IRS building were closed at the time of the incident but are now expected to reopen after the package in question was found to be not dangerous. The large black package was spotted at about 3:00 p.m. resting on one of the pillars of the building. The bomb squad detonated the package at around 5:00 p.m. and found only personal belongings inside. A spokeswoman of the Salt Lake Police Department said the package was found to not be dangerous. The spokeswoman said roads that are now closed surrounding the IRS Building will reopen as soon as officials clean up the investigation. She said the entire IRS building was evacuated, which also houses several businesses. The spokeswoman said it was near closing time when the package was found and the building was evacuated. "It was a big black package. There was no one around it. Nobody saw who put it there. We didn't receive any calls and there wasn't a note or anything, but it was against one of the pillars of the IRS building, which made it suspicious enough in itself," said the spokeswoman. "So we thought to take the highest precautions to evacuate everybody and take care of it." Source: <http://www.fox13now.com/news/kstu-irs-building-evacuated-suspicious-package,0,225912.story>

(Illinois) Deerfield teen suspect in bomb threat. A 16-year-old Deerfield High School student was taken into custody in connection with a bomb threat that was left in a school bathroom February 2. The student could face charges related to the bomb threat and charges of criminal damage to property. The Deputy police chief said the break in the bomb-threat case came as investigators were looking into criminal damage to property at the school. The student was released to his father pending a review by the juvenile division of the Lake County State's Attorney's Office. The deputy police chief said police were investigating several instances of criminal damage to property at the school when the student also became the focus of the bomb threat investigation. Source: http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/newssun/news/2093737,5_1_WA10_BOMB_S1-100310.article

(Ohio) Employee kills co-worker, then self. A new Ohio State University custodial employee who received a bad job evaluation shot two co-workers in a campus maintenance building, killing one of them, and then fatally shot himself, officials said Tuesday. The shooter, who had been hired in October, arrived for work at the nation's largest university in dark clothing with two handguns in a backpack, the campus police chief said. The police chief described the shooting as work-related and said the shooter recently received a poor performance evaluation, though he declined to say whether that was the motive. The shooting was first reported at 3:30 a.m. Tuesday. The suspect, 51, was pronounced dead at Ohio State University Medical Center several hours later, the police chief said. One of the victims, a 48 year-old building services manager, died at the scene. The other victim, a 68 year-old operations shift leader, was in stable condition at Ohio University Medical Center, officials said. More than a half-dozen employees were in the maintenance building when the shooting occurred and have been offered grief counseling, the police chief said during a news conference. Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35774442/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Password reset questions dead easy to guess. Guessing the answer to common password reset questions is far easier than previously thought, according to a new study by computer science researchers. In the paper What's in a Name? Evaluating Statistical Attacks on Personal Knowledge Questions (pdf), a researcher of the University of Cambridge and two colleagues from the University

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of Edinburgh show how hackers stand a one in 80 chance of guessing common security questions such as someone's mother's maiden name or their first school within three attempts. The academics reached their conclusion after analysing 270 million first and last names pairs extracted from Facebook. Online research about a subject or a pre-existing relationship makes the chances of figuring out the answer to password reset questions still easier. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/11/password_reset_insecurity/

File sharing networks open door to identity theft. According to the Washington Post, in any given second, nearly 22 million people around the globe are on peer-to-peer file-sharing networks downloading and swapping movies, software and documents over the Internet. Unfortunately, these same networks also provide identity thieves an open door to consumers' personal information. LifeLock wants to warn consumers about one of the latest identity threats facing consumers today. Cyber thieves are targeting their newest identity victims through the use of file-sharing networks. Consumers and their family members need to be wary about with whom they share music, photos or documents online because criminals could be downloading the information stored on personal computers, including Social Security numbers, home addresses and even health information. Users of file-sharing networks can inadvertently expose the contents of entire hard drives containing personal information to others on the network. By simply searching for specific keywords, identity thieves are able to access and download personal information of thousands upon thousands of individuals.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9005>

Bogus Playstation emulators pack Trojan payload. Retro gaming fans are being targeted in a new con designed to infect computers with a Trojan linked to scareware scams. Downloads posing as Playstation 2 emulators that allow games designed for Sony's console to be played on PCs instead deliver only a Trojan. Emulators offered via Appzkeygen(dot)com, for example, come packing the CodecPack-2GCash-Gen Trojan, a researcher of Sunbelt software warns. So, apart from the dubious legality of emulators, gamers who search for the software packages risk being exposed to all manner of unpleasant scams. "In some cases, people have reported this particular attack resulting in rogue antivirus appearing on the compromised system – however, during testing nothing was downloaded onto the PC," the researcher explains. "This doesn't mean it won't happen, of course – and you'll still have the downloader onboard." Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/11/playstation_emulator_malware/

It's official: Adobe Reader is world's most-exploited app. Adobe's ubiquitous Reader application has replaced Microsoft Word as the program that's most often targeted in malware campaigns, according to figures compiled by F-Secure. Files based on Reader were exploited in almost 49 percent of the targeted attacks of 2009, compared with about 39 percent that took aim at Microsoft Word. By comparison, in 2008, Acrobat was targeted in almost 29 percent of attacks and Word was exploited by almost 35 percent. Underscoring the surge of Reader attacks, online miscreants recently unleashed a new malware campaign that exploits vulnerabilities patched three weeks ago in the widely-used program. The attacks target financial institutions with a PDF file with a name that refers to the so-called Group of 20 most influential economic powers. When victims click on the file with unpatched versions of Reader, the file installs a backdoor that causes their system to connect to a server at tiantian.ninth.biz. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/09/adobe_reader_attacks/

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Ubisoft undone by anti-DRM DDoS storm. Ubisoft has confirmed its rights management servers were hit by a fierce DDoS attack over the weekend that left some customers unable to play its games for much of March 7. The attack is an apparent protest at controversial new DRM controls by the video game publisher which mean customers have to be online in order to play its latest PC games such as Assassin's Creed II and Silent Hunter 5. The introduction of so-called Online Services Platform technology last month means it's impossible to play a game without an internet connection or save progress while playing a game if an internet connection is lost, as explained in a interview with Ubisoft by PC Gamer here. The controls, designed to combat piracy, have sparked much negative comment in the gamer community and apparently inspired action by hacktivists over the weekend that curtailed gameplay for some. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/08/ubisoft_anti_drm_hack_attack/

Cyberattacks explode in Congress. Congress and other government agencies are under a cyber attack an average of 1.8 billion times a month, a number that has been growing exponentially since the President took office. In 2008, security events caused by vectors including worms, Trojan horses, and spybots averaged 8 million hits per month. That number skyrocketed to 1.6 billion in 2009 and climbed to 1.8 billion this year, according to the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms. The Senate Security Operations Center alone receives 13.9 million of those attempts per day. "We operate in an escalating attack environment in which threats to our information infrastructure are increasing in both frequency and sophistication," the Sergeant-at-Arms wrote in testimony submitted to a Senate Appropriations subcommittee March 4. "Our raw numbers bear this out, so we must remain on guard." The vast majority of the attacks have been stopped by the network's automated system defenses, but cyber attackers have become smarter. Attacks are increasingly focused on infiltrating application software on Hill staffer computers, including Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft Office, and Internet Explorer, which may not have the latest security patches. Source:

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0310/33987.html>

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

(Michigan) Police investigating explosive device found in St. Joseph County park. A sheriff's deputy conducting a routine patrol through a public park in northeastern St. Joseph County early Wednesday discovered what authorities are calling a live "improvised explosive device" in a parking area. St. Joseph County undersheriff said the deputy saw wires protruding from a "suspicious object" that had been left in the Olney Bridge Park, located a half-mile north of M-60, west of Leonidas. The 8 a.m. discovery resulted in a Grand Rapids-based Michigan state police bomb squad being dispatched to the scene and the St. Joseph County Road Commission closing surrounding roads. The undersheriff said the device was presumed to be live and bomb experts used a procedure that shoots water through it to disengage it. He said he was unsure what type of explosives the device contained, but added "it was not your typical little pipe bomb." Officers also found non-hazardous remnants of products used in the manufacture of methamphetamine near the device, he said. But officials are not speculating on whether the items are related. No motive or suspects have been developed in the incident so far, he said. Source:

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/03/explosive_device_found_in_st_j.html

(New York) Sabotage on the Canal. Just before 7am Monday, a project coordinator was making his daily check of the Day Peckinpaugh when something caught his eye - the stern of the ship was down

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about 2 feet under water. Bellow deck, he discovered valves in the engine room open and water flooding in. He immediately called for help and together a team of 12 worked, pumping water out to save the ship from sinking. He says he knew it was sabotage - the only way to get below deck is with a set of keys. State Police immediately focused on a 35-year-old employee that was recently let go. When they found a stolen Education Department vehicle just a block from his Waterford home, they questioned him and they say the man confessed. "It's a piece of history. We need to save that," says a project team member. Thanks to a quick thinking crew of rescuers, the 260 foot long ship is still afloat. The ship is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Source:

<http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/Sabotage-on-the-Canal/eyboYZTgzE-t4Ibam58zJQ.csp>

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

(California) Camarillo office receives unidentified powder in mail. An unidentified powdery substance was found on March 9 in a letter mailed to a Mercury Insurance office in Camarillo, leading to an evacuation but no apparent injuries, authorities said. Ventura County Fire Department and FBI officials said the substance was not hazardous, but they did not elaborate, saying further testing was necessary. Emergency personnel responded about 10:30 a.m. to the office in the Mission Oaks Business Park complex on Adolfo Road after an employee opened an envelope and found an unknown white substance, authorities said. County firefighters and Sheriff's Department deputies also responded, along with an Oxnard Fire Department hazardous materials team. Three people were exposed to the substance, which was released when a office clerk was routinely opening mail. The hazardous materials team determined the substance was "not life-threatening," but he did not say what the substance was. The incident is being investigated by the FBI, Ventura County Sheriff's Department, and U.S. Postal Inspector. Source:

<http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/mar/09/authorities-investigating-unknown-substance-in/>

(Alabama) Suspicious letter sent to federal building under investigation. Authorities are investigating a suspicious letter sent to the Vance Federal Building in downtown Birmingham, Alabama, Monday. A hazmat team was called to the building after an employee opened the letter and found a white powder inside. The powder was sent off for testing. No one was hurt. Source:

<http://www.myfoxa.com/Global/story.asp?S=12107584>

PUBLIC HEALTH

J&J pushed Risperdal for elderly after U.S. warning, files show. Johnson & Johnson made plans to reach \$302 million in geriatric sales for its antipsychotic Risperdal just months after federal regulators said the company falsely claimed the drug was safe and effective with the elderly, according to internal documents. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration told J&J in 1999 that its marketing materials for geriatric patients overstated Risperdal's benefits and minimized risks. A J&J business plan for the next year called for increasing the drug's market share for elderly dementia sales, an unapproved use, according to newly unsealed documents in a lawsuit by the state of Louisiana. "The geriatric market represents Risperdal's second wave of growth," J&J officials wrote in the business plan. "The aging population will continue to drive market growth well into the next century." Louisiana officials cited the document and dozens of other internal J&J files in its lawsuit claiming the company marketed Risperdal to the elderly and children for unapproved uses. A professor at Harvard Medical School, who is not involved in the case, called the papers "one of the more egregious

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examples” of marketing drugs to vulnerable patients. Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601109&sid=ag4Ya8UOl0b0&pos=13>

TRANSPORTATION

(Texas) Napolitano says suicide plane crash wasn't related to domestic terrorism. A suicide plane crash that killed the pilot and an Internal Revenue Service worker at an office building in Austin on February 18 was not a case of domestic terrorism, the U.S. Homeland Security Secretary said Tuesday in a radio interview. The pilot “had his own personal issues and personal motives” and was carrying out a personal agenda, said the Secretary. “To our belief, he was a lone wolf. He used a terrorist tactic, but an individual who uses a terrorist tactic doesn't necessarily mean they are part of an organized group attempting an attack on the United States,” she said. Source:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/09/AR2010030903475.html?nav=rss_nation/special

(Colorado) Colorado rock slide rains boulders on bridge, highway. A rock slide punched gaping holes in a bridge and left huge boulders on Interstate 70, closing a 17-mile stretch in western Colorado and prompting the governor to declare a disaster emergency Monday. The slide struck around midnight Sunday near Hanging Lake Tunnel in Glenwood Canyon, a deep, narrow chasm about 110 miles west of Denver, the Colorado Department of Transportation said. No injuries or damage to vehicles were reported. All lanes were closed from Glenwood Springs east to the town of Dotsero. Up to 25,000 vehicles a day travel that section of the major east-west artery, a department spokeswoman said. Because of the rugged terrain, the shortest detour adds about 200 miles around the mountainous Flat Tops Wilderness Area. Adding to the traffic mess, U.S. 50 was closed over Monarch Pass due to adverse conditions. The rock slide took out median barriers, steel guardrails and at least one lightpole. The largest hole in the roadway was 10 by 20 feet in the westbound lane. About 20 boulders ranging from three to 10 feet long were scattered on the highway, with the largest weighing 66 tons, officials said. Crews were drilling holes in the large boulders to insert explosives and blast them into smaller pieces. She said once the crew clears the debris, they will be able to find out which lanes can be reopened. Source: http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2010/03/09/business-financial-impact-us-rock-slide-colorado_7418149.html?boxes=Homepagebusinessnews

WATER AND DAMS

Nothing Significant to Report

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **Fusion Center (24/7):** 866-885-8295; email: ndslic@nd.gov ; FAX: 701-328-8175

State Radio: 800-472-2121 **Bureau of Criminal Investigation:** 701-328-5500 **Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455

US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400 **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875 **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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