

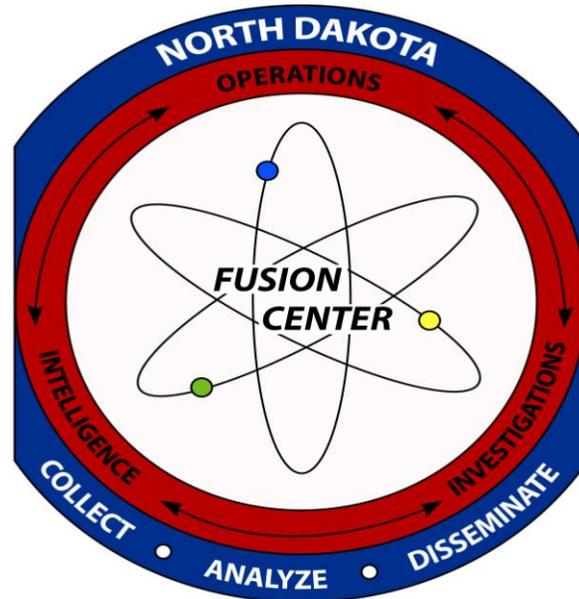


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North Dakota Homeland Security "Open Source" Anti-Terrorism Summary

January 19, 2010



The North Dakota All Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota Fusion Center. 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 ndfusion@nd.gov

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QUICK LINKS

North Dakota

Regional

National

International

Banking and Finance Industry

Chemical and Hazardous Materials Sector

Commercial Facilities

Communications Sector

Critical Manufacturing

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Emergency Services

Energy

Food and Agriculture

Government Sector (including Schools and Universities)

Information Technology and Telecommunications

National Monuments and Icons

Postal and Shipping

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Transportation

Water and Dams

North Dakota Homeland Security Contacts

NORTH DAKOTA

Air Force officers accused of stealing from missile launch facility allowed to resign. Two officers accused of stealing classified material from an underground missile launch facility at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota have been allowed to resign rather than face courts-martial, the military said Wednesday. The Air Force Secretary approved the resignation of one officer in September and the second officer last month, the military said. The second officer is currently stationed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and “will be out of the Air Force in the near future,” an Air Force statement said. Neither suspect could immediately be reached for comment Wednesday. Neither man had a listed telephone number, and the second officer did not immediately respond to a message left for him at the base through an Air Force spokesman. The men were missile combat crew members assigned to the base’s 91st Missile Wing. They were among the crew members who work 90 feet underground prepared to launch nuclear missiles. They were accused of taking classified material in July 2005, rather than destroying it as required when it was no longer in use. Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-us-air-force-officers-discharge,0,3666768.story>

Scam texts center on Fargo credit union cards. A series of scam text messages has tried to trick cell phone users into giving up bank account information by telling them their card with Fargo Public Schools Federal Credit Union has been deactivated. Two batches of the scam texts have been identified, one sent to Sprint users on January 9 and another to Verizon subscribers on January 12, said the credit union’s CEO. She said it appears the scammers are working from cell phone subscriber

lists, plucking out Fargo names. Information about credit union accounts have not been accessed, she said. She said the credit union has received hundreds of phone calls about the text messages, which she figures could have been sent to thousands of people. West Fargo police sent a warning out about the text messages late on January 13, saying they have received numerous reports about them.

Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/265770/>

REGIONAL

TSA: Security fails to spot gun at Mont. airport. Officials say security screeners at a Bozeman-area airport failed to spot a gun in a passenger's luggage last month, but the man turned himself in when he realized his error. A Transportation Security Administration spokesman said in a written statement Wednesday that the unidentified man became aware that he had the firearm in his carryon luggage as he was boarding December 13 at Gallatin Field. The gun was confiscated and the passenger was allowed to continue on the flight. The incident occurred nearly two weeks before the alleged Christmas Day attempt to blow up a U.S. airliner reawakened widespread concern over airline safety.

Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/national/1110ap_us_airport_security_breach.html

Nuclear medicine shortage causing delays. All across Montana, hospitals are experiencing a shortage of nuclear medicine. Nuclear medicine is used to screen for cancer and Parkinson's disease. The shortage means a delay of four or five days for patients who need tests. The problem is only five nuclear reactors in the world produce the medical isotopes. The country's biggest supplier is in Canada. Unfortunately, that plant has been shut down for a long time causing a critical shortage. A cardiologist at the Montana Heart Center noted that the plant supplies about 70 percent of the nuclear medicine isotopes in the United States. "It's hard in our nuclear medicine world because it's what we do and we can't do it when we don't have our isotopes," she said, adding that by early spring at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula they plan to use stress cardiac MRI's, an alternative diagnostic tool, not affected by the isotope shortage. Source: <http://www.keci.com/Nuclear-Medicine-Shortage-Causing-Delays/6089577>

NATIONAL

Possibility of plots prompts more checks for explosives at airports. The Department of Homeland Security moved January 14 to increase random checks for explosives at American airports after officials cited a heightened concern over possible terror plots against the aviation system. Counterterrorism officials said that recent intelligence tips had hinted at a planned attack by Qaeda operatives, but that the threat information was vague and did not specify a particular target or date. Still, after failing to anticipate the attempted Christmas Day bombing of a Northwest Airlines flight, government officials said they wanted to take every precaution. "We must remain vigilant about the continued threat we face" from Al Qaeda," the Homeland Security Secretary said in a statement. "We are facing a determined enemy and we appreciate the patience of all Americans and visitors to our country, and the cooperation of our international partners as well as a committed airline industry." The measures will include random checks with explosive-detection devices of passengers or baggage at locations around some American airports, not just at security checkpoints, one Homeland Security Department official said. The devices search for trace amounts of explosives as a sign that someone might be carrying a bomb. Air marshals will also more frequently board flights on certain unidentified routes, officials said. Canine teams and so-called behavior detection officers — which have been

deployed in larger numbers since the December 25 episode — will continue to patrol airports, looking for suspicious activity or explosives. Three American counterterrorism officials declined the evening of January 14 to say what prompted the new travel advisory. But they suggested that they had seen an increase in tips about a possible attack from Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the Yemen-based group that claimed credit for the failed December 25 plot. Source:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/15/us/15secure.html>

INTERNATIONAL

Security at oil facilities in east India tightened. India has deployed additional forces to guard energy facilities including an oil refinery in the eastern state of Bihar after police found maps of such units with a suspected militant from Bangladesh. “We are investigating how he managed to get maps of key oil installations,” a senior police officer said on January 15. The suspected militant was arrested on January 13, police said. State-run Indian Oil Corp (IOC.BO) has 14 key oil facilities in the state, including 120,000 barrels per day refinery at Barauni, depots and plants to fill cooking gas in cylinders. The move comes weeks after intelligence agencies said militants may target oil refineries and nuclear facilities. “We have been informed that oil refineries and other key government installations could be targets,” a senior police officer in the district where the Barauni refinery is located told Reuters. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSSGE60E08B20100115?type=marketsNews>

Yemen al-Qaeda Link to Guantanamo

Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) has quickly become one of America's primary security concerns, following Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab's claims that the organization was behind his failed attempt to blow up an airliner bound for Detroit. Although his attack was unsuccessful, the United States must now face the fact that two of AQAP's founders, Said al-Shihri and Mohammed al-Awfi, were once former detainees at Guantanamo Bay. Al-Shihri and al-Awfi were part of Batch 10, a group of 14 detainees released to Saudi Arabia by the Bush administration 18 months ago. The Saudi government had reportedly planned for these detainees to participate in its controversial de-radicalization program, which it claims has a 90 percent success rate. In total 111 Saudi detainees have been repatriated into this program, only 10 of which they say have escaped to cross the border into Yemen. Five of these detainees came from the group that included al-Shihri and al-Awfi, who later helped set up AQAP. Al-Awfi even appeared in a promotional video for the group, attacking the Saudi rehabilitation program. However, not long after the video was filmed, al-Awfi returned to Saudi Arabia to give himself up. Saudi authorities say al-Awfi's return was triggered by a request from his wife, which is not surprising as some reports indicate Saudi officials are known to use families as bait to recapture militants. Al-Awfi is now being held in luxury accommodations in a Saudi prison, where he claims that he only participated in AQAP because of pressure from al-Qaida's leadership. He also claims he was severely tortured by U.S. interrogators when he was held at Bagram airbase in Afghanistan. As for al-Shihri, he remains at large in Yemen with two other detainees from Batch 10 and is believed to be second in command of AQAP.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/newsnight/8454804.stm>

Britain Outlaws Islam4UK, Which Some Say Glorifies Terrorism

The British government announced Tuesday that it is banning Islam4UK, a group that holds demonstrations in the town where those who have died in the war in Afghanistan are brought home.

In addition, Islam4UK is believed to be the latest incarnation of several other groups that have been banned, including one that praised the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. According to Home Secretary Alan Johnson, the move is allowed under legislation that permits the government to ban organizations that are believed to advocate or glorify terrorism. He added that banning Islam4UK was a necessary move to take to combat violent extremism in Britain. But Anjem Choudary, the leader of Islam4UK, said his group does not advocate violence. He added that the government's move to ban Islam4UK violates his right to freedom of expression. <http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-britain-islam13-2010jan13,0,5136069,print.story>

Yemeni Forces Kill al Qaeda Suspect

A suspected member of al-Qaida was killed during a raid by Yemeni security forces on Tuesday. During the raid, which took place in the mountainous region of Maysaa, Yemeni security forces surrounded a house where about 20 militants had holed up. During a gun battle with the militants, Abdullah Mihzar, who is on the list of wanted al-Qaida figures, was killed. Four other militants were arrested during the raid, while the remaining militants escaped. The raid, which comes amid a stepped-up counterterrorism campaign by Yemen and the U.S., has been criticized by Sheik Atiq Baadha, the tribal chief of the Maysaa area. He noted that Mihzar and the others were not members of al-Qaida, and that the use of force in tribal regions could result in Yemeni tribesman becoming sympathetic to militants.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704362004575000352155236726.html>

Somali Man is charged in 2 More Ship Hijackings

The Somali man charged with being involved in the takeover of the Maersk Alabama last April has been indicted on charges of hijacking two other ships. According to the expanded indictment, which was unsealed Tuesday at Federal District Court in Manhattan, the man, Abduwali Abdukhadir Muse, was part of a group of pirates that boarded and seized a ship in the Indian Ocean last March. In addition, Muse has been charged with hijacking a ship in April 2009 that was used to seize the Maersk Alabama. According to Brendan R. McGuire, the prosecutor in the case, Muse threatened crew members on board one of those ships with an improvised explosive device. He added that crew members on board one of the ships were still being held hostage. Muse has pleaded not guilty to the new charges. <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/13/nyregion/13pirate.html>

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

Debit cards as vulnerable to fraud as credit cards. Shoppers are frequently warned to be on guard against consumer credit card fraud, but they may be less inclined to think about the security risks that they face with their debit card as well. According to Discover, debit cards can be vulnerable to identity theft and other fraudulent activity when shoppers fail to properly safeguard their personal identification numbers (PINs). People are advised to change their passwords and PINs regularly so the information stays out of the wrong hands. Another thing to watch for is criminals who can steal financial data simply by looking over a person's shoulder or, in some cases, by using so-called skimming devices that can be attached to an ATM machine to steal data. Discover also advises people to regularly track their purchases online to spot any red-flag activity as quickly as possible, and to promptly report any missing cards so that potential thieves do not get a head start on racking up fraudulent charges. Source: <http://www.creditfyi.com/News/debit-cards-as-vulnerable-to-fraud-as-credit-cards-234.htm>

Dallas police make arrests in ATM theft ring. Dallas police say they have made a big break in an ATM theft ring. Just before three this morning, the suspects made off with a cash machine from the Doubletree Hotel near Stemmons and Market Center in Dallas. Police later caught up with a car believed to be connected to the crime. Two other vehicles are also believed to be linked. One of the suspects now in custody is who detectives believe was in charge of the theft ring. Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/local/Dallas-police-make-arrests-in-ATM-theft-ring-81212367.html>

Police: Bank robber's bomb is a fake. Police say a man who used a fake bomb to rob a Kenosha, Wisconsin, bank remains at large. Authorities say the man walked into the M&I Bank and demanded money from a teller. They say he had a small case with him that he claimed contained a bomb. He left it on the counter and said he had a remote detonator. The suspect fled on foot with an undetermined amount of money. The Kenosha News says the bank and nearby homes were evacuated as the Kenosha County bomb squad used a robot device to determine if the case was dangerous. It turned out to be empty. Source: <http://www.wkowntv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11813681>

Banks brace for bailout fee. The U.S Presidential Administration is aiming to hit banks with a fee to recoup losses associated with the government's bailout of financial firms and the auto industry, administration officials say. The White House hopes the fee will soothe the public's anger at financial firms. Most big banks that received public funds have repaid the government, but the industry is seen by many as having survived thanks to taxpayer support, and is now enjoying a profit rebound as the economy struggles. This month, many large banks will resume paying big bonuses to employees. The Administration is likely to slap banks with a fee designed to recoup losses associated with TARP, in a move that could help lower the deficit and reduce risk-taking by big banks. Much remains uncertain about how such a fee would work. The Administration is wrestling with who should pay, when it should be implemented and what would happen if banks pay more than the government-bailout program ultimately loses. Auto makers are not currently targets of the fee idea. Even though the proposal is still under discussion, it is expected to be included in the White House's budget, due next month, if only conceptually. It is expected to cost large banks billions of dollars and could also affect bank customers if firms pass along the cost. Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB126322918488724799.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLETopStories

Special bankruptcy court for big banks is on the table. Key members of the Senate Banking Committee are in discussions to create a special bankruptcy court for "too-big-to-fail" banks, according to people familiar with discussions on the panel. The court would work in tandem with a process to dismantle a Lehman-like failing super-sized bank in a way that does not cause collateral damage to the markets. Lawmakers in the committee are working to see if they can create a broad bipartisan bank reform bill in response to the financial system's near collapse in 2008. Two Senate Banking Committee members have been charged with reaching a bipartisan deal on systemic risk issues. The Financial Crisis Commission will require top bankers and regulators to testify about the causes of the financial crisis. Source: http://www.marketwatch.com/story/senators-in-talks-about-big-bank-bankruptcy-court-2010-01-11?reflink=MW_news_stmp

Toronto man denies plot to bomb bourse and cash in. A Toronto man on January 11 pleaded not guilty to plotting to bomb Canada's main stock exchange in 2006, as prosecutors said he aimed to profit from wreaking economic havoc to fund other terror attacks. The 34 year old defendant is accused of conspiring to bomb the Toronto Stock Exchange, Canada's spy agency offices and a

military base in order to try to provoke Canada's withdrawal from Afghanistan. He was arrested with 17 alleged Islamic extremists in a 2006 police sting operation after the group sought to purchase three tons of bomb-making ingredient ammonium nitrate from undercover police officers. According to reports, he saw an opportunity to profit from blowing up the Toronto Stock Exchange by short-selling stocks before the bombings and reap a windfall that could be used to fund more terror attacks abroad. While his co-conspirators were impressionable young men with modest means, bent on destruction and mayhem for "religiously-inspired political purposes," prosecutors say the defendant was motivated primarily by financial gain. The plan was "to affect the economy, to make it lose half a trillion dollars," said court documents cited by the daily Globe and Mail. Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jwfzJk4QP28W2baGqscr_cwf_cOQ

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Ex-Worker Accused in Ga. Fatal Workplace Shooting

Police officials have arrested former Penske Truck Rental employee Jessie James Warren in connection with a shooting that left two people dead and three injured at a Penske facility in Kennesaw, Ga., on Tuesday. Penske has not released the identity of the shooting victims, but says that four were employees and one was a customer. The police, however, say that none of the victims shot was a customer. At the time of the shooting, approximately two dozen employees were working at the Penske office. Warren worked for Penske for several years, but it is unclear why he left. He reportedly confronted an individual in the Penske parking lot before moving to the truck bay area and shooting victims along the way. He did not attempt to enter the administrative office on the building's second floor. <http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/ex-worker-held-without-273386.html>

ELF member pleads guilty to placing bomb in Pasadena condo project. A man who admitted being a member of the radical environmental group Earth Liberation Front— or ELF, as it's known — pleaded guilty in federal court today to placing a gasoline-filled bomb in a Pasadena condominium project that was under construction in 2006, authorities said. The 44-year-old man pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to one count of conspiracy to commit arson. The man placed the bomb in the Vista del Arroyo Bungalows project, which was being built directly under the Colorado Bridge in Pasadena, federal prosecutors said. He lighted the device and then fled the scene; but the timer failed, so it did not ignite. The crime remained unsolved until 2009 when investigators matched DNA extracted from the incendiary device to a sample of his DNA in a law enforcement database. He is scheduled to be sentenced April 5 and faces a maximum of five years in federal prison, the U.S. attorney's office said. Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/01/elf-member-pleads-guilty-to-placing-bomb-in-pasadena-condo-project.html>

Scene cleared in "suspicious" incident near OIA. Orlando police have cleared the scene of a suspicious incident that prompted the evacuation of a hotel near Orlando International Airport, a police sergeant said. Officers were called to Hazeltine National Drive before 1:30 p.m. after a caller reported a suspicious, unattended FedEx delivery truck. As a precaution, police brought an explosive-

sniffing dog to the scene, which alerted its handler to possible explosives, the sergeant said. An Orange County dog did the same, but investigators ultimately determined they were wrong. Three businesses were evacuated, including a nearby Embassy Suites on T.G. Lee Boulevard. Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-hotel-evacuated-suspicious-incident-20100111,0,2551054.story>

Pipe bomb shuts Red Bluff River Park. Members of the Shasta County bomb squad destroyed a pipe bomb early Saturday afternoon on Willow Street. Police received reports of a pipe bomb lying in the street between Hal's Eat 'Em Up and Tom's Glass and Muffler Center around 8 a.m. and quickly moved to seal off the block. At one point, traffic on main street was halted as the Shasta County Bomb Squad's robot was used to move the pipe to Red Bluff River Park at the end of Willow Street. Hal's was closed temporarily as a precaution. The bomb itself was a black plastic pipe about six inches in length, sealed on both ends, and with an unlit fuse sticking out. It was destroyed shortly after noon when officers, using the robot, moved it to the edge of Red Bluff River Park and shot it with a clay, 12-gauge bullet, Shasta County sheriff's officer said. The bomb did not ignite when shot, but had been concealing a black powder, the officer said. Police did not have any suspects or leads as of Saturday afternoon. Source: http://www.redbluffdailynews.com/news/ci_14165485

COMMUNICATIONS

U.S. notes Al Qaeda Olympic threat. The U.S. government is advising American sports fans traveling to Vancouver for the 2010 Winter Olympics to watch out for Al-Qaeda and other extremists, especially on transit and in restaurants, churches and other areas outside official venues. "Al-Qaeda's demonstrated capability to carry out sophisticated attacks against sizable structures — such as ships, large office buildings, embassies and hotels — makes it one of the greatest potential threats to the Olympics," the U.S. State Department said in a fact sheet on the Games posted on its website. No specific credible threats have been identified, the U.S. government said. However, Americans planning to attend Olympic events or participate in large-scale public gatherings during the Winter Games should use caution and be alert to their surroundings, the advisory said. Americans are advised to be especially alert when outside Olympic venues. "As security increases in and around Olympic venues, terrorists could shift their focus to more unprotected Olympic venues, open spaces, hotels, railway and other transportation systems, churches, restaurants, and other sites not associated with the Olympics." Source: <http://www.ctvolympics.ca/about-vancouver/news/newsid=25959.html>

Deputies investigating bomb threat at Orange County apartment. Orange County, Florida, deputy sheriffs are investigating a bomb threat called in this morning to Sun Key Apartments in the Winter Park area. Deputy Sheriffs were called to the scene about 9:45 a.m. after an anonymous caller phoned in the threat. The apartments are located off of North Goldenrod Road in the 7500 block of Sun Key Boulevard. No bomb has been found so far, deputies said. Investigators think the call was placed from a nearby Sunoco gas station. The caller has not been found. Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-sun-key-bomb-threat-20100113,0,4215023.story>

17-year-old from Annadale accused of making mall bomb threat. A 17-year-old from Annadale, New York, left a chilling message on a computer in the Staten Island Mall Apple store threatening

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employees and customers alike with “bloody death,” prosecutors allege. The 17 year-old told authorities he meant the note as a joke, but authorities are viewing it as a terroristic threat, and have arrested him on a charge that carries a maximum of seven years in prison. “I have threatened your store and all its employees with a bloody death... On January 17th, 2010 whoever the crew may be working, or the innocent citizens that walk in... will be eliminated with the force of a 98lb bomb loaded with C4, strapped to my chest,” he typed on a computer at the store, using a name that belonged to his friend’s father. He had walked into the store with two friends at about 2:50 p.m. Monday. Someone discovered the message and notified authorities, and police arrested him inside the mall a few hours later. “So I typed that note and put his father’s name as the author of the letter,” the suspect told police later, according to court papers. “And as we exited the store we forgot to delete the note off the computer, so when Apple found the note it looked like a terrorist threat.” He was arraigned in Stapleton Criminal Court, where his bail was set at \$10,000 bond or \$5,000 cash until his next court appearance February 2. His lawyer characterized the note as a “foolish joke,” and pointed out that the teen made a full, written confession. Source:

http://www.silive.com/westshore/index.ssf/2010/01/17-year-old_from_tottenville_a.html

Sandwich attack busts new cellphone crypto. A new encryption scheme for protecting 3G phone networks has not even gone into commercial use and already cryptographers have cracked it — at least theoretically. In a paper published on January 12, the cryptographers showed that the Kasumi cipher, which is also referred to as A5/3, can be broken using what is known as a related-key attack, in which a message encrypted with one key is later changed to one or more different keys. The team dubbed the technique a sandwich attack because it was broken into three parts: two thick slices at the top and bottom and a thin slice in the middle. The results come two weeks after a separate team released a practical method for cracking A5/1, the cipher currently used to prevent snooping on GSM networks. The technique relies on about \$4,000 worth of equipment and requires the capture of only a few minutes worth of an encrypted conversation in order to break it. The attack exploits weaknesses in the decades-old cipher. The GSM Association, which represents about 800 cellular carriers in 219 countries, has vowed to switch to the much more modern A5/3 cipher, but so far, it has provided no time line for doing so. Source:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/13/gsm_crypto_crack/

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

AT&T, Motorola, Qwest, V-Tech telephone batteries recalled. Lenmar Enterprises is recalling about 1,400 rechargeable batteries used in wireless phones. The batteries can overheat, posing a fire and burn hazard to consumers. The firm has received six reports of batteries overheating, resulting in deformation of phones. No injuries have been reported. The recall involves the rechargeable batteries with the model number CB0217 2.4 volt 1500 mAh NiMH. Only batteries with date code 0809 are affected by this recall. The date code can be found on the back of the battery. The batteries were sold to electrical product distributors and retailers nationwide and at Lenmar.com from July 2009 through August 2009 for about \$18. They were made in China. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled batteries and contact Lenmar to receive a free replacement. Source:

<http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/lenmar.html>

DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE SECTOR

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Nothing Significant to Report

EMERGENCY SERVICES

New communication system to link bi-state emergency services. A nearly \$10 million communication system will link Illinois and Missouri police departments allowing emergency response workers to talk to each other with more ease and create a communication system unlike anything else in the country. The St. Louis Regional Digital Microwave System, a regionally-based network similar to that which links office computers, consists of 76 tower sites in Madison, Monroe and St. Clair counties, Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles, and St. Louis counties in Missouri, and the city of St. Louis. The \$9.7 million system is funded by the Department of Homeland Security. It will be designed and installed by Paris-based Lacatel-Lucent Technologies, announced the East-West Gateway Council of Governments. It will provide a level of interoperable communications not seen anywhere else in North America, said the executive director for the St. Louis Area Regional Response System, or STARRS. Source: <http://www.tmcnet.com/usubmit/2010/01/12/4569110.htm>

Police lab evacuated after Molotov cocktail incident. A section of the Boise, Idaho, Police Department Crime Lab had to be evacuated Tuesday morning after a lab technician was exposed to some evidence. A lab technician was preparing to process evidence consisted of a Molotov cocktail that had been lit and put out with a fire extinguisher. "It looks at this point as though when she opened it she got a little bit of powder in her face and it may have gotten in her eyes and irritated her face. Powder from the extinguisher it looks like at this time," said Boise's police spokesman. The technician complained of irritation in her eyes and skin and paramedics were called out. Other technicians were evacuated to another part of the building as crews responded. Source: <http://www.nwcn.com/news/idaho/Boise-Police-lab-evacuated-after-Molotov-cocktail-incident-81245107.html>

Public safety officials seek additional spectrum for first responders. Top public safety officials plan to ask Congress to enact legislation directing the Federal Communications Commission to allocate a slice of cellular communications spectrum to first responders and halt auctions to commercial carriers. The push comes seven years after the 9/11 commission recommended in its report that local public safety agencies be assigned new spectrum quickly. In what it described as an "unparalleled event," the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International said it will hold a briefing at the National Press Club on Tuesday with leading police and fire officials to urge Congress to immediately reallocate the 700 megahertz D block cellular spectrum for public safety use. The broadband network also could support automated license plate recognition and biometric technologies, including mobile fingerprint and iris identification, according to APCO. FCC failed to attract a bidder for block D during a February 2008 cellular auction, and unless Congress acts now, the commission must put the block up for auction again. Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100111_8068.php?oref=topnews

ENERGY

Over three miles of copper wire stolen from Duke Energy. At least 10 reports of theft of copper wire from Duke Energy have come in since November 27, with the most recent report on January 14, said a detective with the Brown County Sheriff's Office. He said each time a theft is reported, another

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2,000 to 3,000 feet of wire is missing. In total, more than three and a half miles of copper wire has been stolen. He said the perpetrator appears to be climbing telephone poles then using bolt cutters to cut down numbers two and four neutral copper wire. To climb the poles, typically a person must have specific footwear pole climbers use. Though Duke Energy is not the only electric provider for Brown County, so far it is the only one to be affected by the thefts. A spokesperson for Duke Energy said the copper wire is replaced with aluminum wire. So far, no one has reported outages from the cutting of the wire, but she said removing the wire from the poles poses a hazard to all. The detective said some people have reported suspicious activity, but the lapse between the time of the theft and the reports make it difficult for police to obtain the information they need for the investigation. They both encouraged anyone who sees a person on a pole who does not have a marked Duke Energy truck nearby or the Duke Energy hard hat to call police. Source: http://www.maysville-online.com/news/local/article_5f58f4c8-0199-11df-8826-001cc4c002e0.html

Nuclear plant protester must serve 5 days in jail. The last of six anti-nuclear protesters arrested at North Anna Power Station's visitor center in 2008 will serve five days in jail for trespassing. A Louisa County Circuit Court jury last week found the defendant guilty of misdemeanor trespassing. The defendant had appealed a two-week jail sentence handed down in Louisa General District Court in September 2008. The defendant is a member of Peoples Alliance for Clean Energy, which opposes a plan by Dominion Virginia Power to add a third nuclear reactor at North Anna. The peaceful protest at the plant's information center by the South East Climate Convergence was held to draw attention to that proposal. Dominion is in the final stage of the application process before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with a plan that has drawn fire from some environmental groups and nearby residents. Louisa Commonwealth's Attorney said, "We're pleased with the outcome. It's a significant sentence, given the nature of the charge. In a post-9/11 world, we take the safety of a nuclear power plant very seriously." Source: <http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2010/012010/01132010/520311>

Emergency sirens may be impacted by extreme weather conditions. The current NOAA weather forecast for the station is predicted to be about -25 degrees Fahrenheit [on the morning of January 9, 2010]. Based on this forecast, the station reviewed the impact of these temperatures on the 101 sirens in the Fort Calhoun Station 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) in Nebraska. The siren manufacturer's and the FEMA approved siren design report information states that the sirens (Federal Signal model 2001) are designed for operation between the temperature readings of -22 degrees Fahrenheit and +140 degrees Fahrenheit. Events on a similar condition at another utility having the same sirens were reviewed. It was noted that the reports documented discussion with the manufacturer's technical representative confirming that the sirens are operational and no special testing is required when the temperature goes below and then returns within the operating temperature limits. The current temperature at the station is within the operational limits. Therefore, the 101 sirens are considered functional at this time. The following agencies were notified that if the temperature falls below a negative twenty-two degrees Fahrenheit, the established process of back-up route alerting is to be used notifying the public in the event of a nuclear emergency where the sirens are activated but fail to respond: Washington County, NE Emergency Management; Pottawatomie County, IA Emergency Management; and Harrison County, IA Emergency Management. Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en45615>

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Minn. food company expands voluntary recall. A Minnesota food company has expanded its voluntary recall after a state inspection found that all products at the company's Coon Rapids facility may have contaminated by bacteria. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has advised consumers to discard any food made at the Parkers Farm facility. The agency had issued a more limited advisory on January 8. The facility produces peanut butter, cheese, salsa, cream cheese bagel spreads, and other products under several labels, including Parkers Farm, Happy Farms, Central Markets, and others. The state's Department of Agriculture said sampling found that some of the products were contaminated with the bacteria that can cause listeriosis. No illnesses have been reported. A list of recalled products can be found at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us>. Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2010/01/14/food-recall/>

One-third of Florida vegetables lost to freeze. Preliminary estimates from Florida show 10 consecutive nights of freezes destroyed nearly a third of the state's winter fruit and vegetable production and caused hundreds of millions of dollars in losses. Harvesting remained stopped in many areas as growers wait for warmer weather to see what they can salvage. The severe cold struck all central and south Florida's growing regions, from Plant City's strawberries to vegetables in Immokalee and Naples in southwest Florida to Belle Glade in West Palm Beach County, to Homestead and areas along the East Coast. On January 14, Florida's Agriculture Commissioner toured the Plant City area and planned to visit other areas hit hard by the severe cold. He is expected to seek federal disaster assistance. A spokesman for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Tallahassee said state officials would receive preliminary damage estimates the week of January 18. The cycle of sub-zero overnight temperatures ended January 13. He said the state expects a minimum of a 30 percent loss in production and millions of dollars in losses. Source: <http://thepacker.com/One-third-of-Florida-vegetables-lost-to-freeze/Article.aspx?articleid=975511&authorid=683&categoryid=122&feedid=215&src=recent>

Baby food may be contaminated. A popular brand of organic baby food may come with bacteria. Consumers have been advised to watch out for all varieties of "Happy Tot Stage 4" and some pouch meals of "Happy Baby Stage 2" with expiration dates between November 2010 and January 2011. The packages can swell and leak, causing food contamination. Source: <http://www.ketv.com/news/22239330/detail.html>

Md. seafood co.'s production halted by FDA. A Maryland seafood distributor has been ordered by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to stop processing and distributing fish and seafood because it is not in compliance with federal food safety laws. Congressional Seafood Company of Jessup and three of its executives were cited by the FDA for failing to follow regulations in the handling of several of its seafood products. The FDA compiled a list of failures, including documenting that fish were refrigerated at appropriate temperatures, keeping different species of fish separated, keeping records and meeting sanitation standards. FDA said officials at the company had been warned several times to get in compliance with federal law. The FDA can take corrective actions, including shutting the company down or recalling its products. Congressional Seafood distributes products to Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. Source: <http://www.wbaltv.com/consumeralert/22208600/detail.html>

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First beef E. coli recall of 2010. Athol, Massachusetts-based Adams Farm Slaughterhouse, LLC, recalled approximately 2,574 pounds of beef that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). This recall was initiated after the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) confirmed a positive ground beef sample for E. coli O157:H7, which it collected during an epidemiological investigation. FSIS then concluded there is an association between the ground beef products and an illness in the state of Massachusetts. FSIS is continuing to work with the MDPH on the investigation. Each package of ground beef cutlets bears a label with the establishment number "EST. 5497" inside the USDA mark of inspection as well as the packaging date of "11/11/2009." The beef products were distributed to private owners on three separate Massachusetts farms. Source:

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/01/massachusetts-has-first-hamburger-e-coli-recall-of-2010/>

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES)

"Suspicious" powder forces evacuation of attorney general's office. A mailroom clerk working in the South Carolina attorney general's mailroom discovered a letter that had some type of powder inside Thursday morning. The letter was sent by an inmate, according a spokesman with the attorney general's office. After the powder was determined to be "suspicious", the 6th floor of the office building was evacuated by Capitol Police. The evacuation impacted about 75 people. The powder was later determined to be "non-hazardous". It was business as usual for the attorney general and the rest of his staff; no one else in the building was evacuated, but no one was allowed in or out of the building while the investigation continued. Source:

http://www2.wspa.com/spa/news/local/article/suspicious_powder_forces_evacuation_of_attorney_generals_office/31917/

Judge receives suspicious package, hazmat called in. A Royersford, Pennsylvania man authorities allege intended to terrorize a judge's court by sending an envelope containing an unknown white powdery substance to the court was arrested for terroristic threats Thursday. The suspect was taken into police custody Thursday afternoon after a court clerk opened the letter containing the unknown substance and alerted police. The court employee immediately took precautions, not knowing whether the substance could be dangerous or toxic, the police chief said. The employee washed their hands, cleared the area where the substance was located and called police. Source:

<http://www.pottsmmerc.com/articles/2010/01/15/news/srv0000007333648.txt>

Arkansas man pleads guilty for plotting to kill Obama. An Arkansas man pleaded guilty Thursday to charges he plotted to kill the then-Senator and Presidential hopeful and dozens of other black people in 2008. The lead defendant, 19, of Arkansas, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy, one count of threatening to kill and harm a presidential candidate and one count of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence. He faces up to 10 years in prison when he is sentenced in April. A co-defendant, 21, of Tennessee, remains in custody. Authorities have described the two as white supremacist skinheads who hatched a plot for a cross-country robbery and killing spree that was to culminate with an attack on the President, who was then a candidate for president. They were arrested in October 2008 and have been held without bond since. Source:

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,583076,00.html>

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Rep. Massey reports bomb threats over medical-marijuana stance. Three separate callers threatened to bomb a state representative's home, set it aflame and picket out front after the Poncha Springs lawmaker revealed that he would carry a medical-marijuana bill that could close dispensaries. The representative was not at home when the calls came in starting January 11. He said his wife called the Chaffee County Sheriff's Office, and surveillance has been set up at both his home and the Capitol. "My wife being there, she took it seriously," the representative said. "I would have taken it with a grain of salt." Before the governor's State of the State address, a bomb-sniffing dog checked the House chamber. The unusual security measure was a response to the threats against the representative, Capitol security said. In Poncha Springs, the Sheriff's Office put a tap on the representative's phone to identify callers, set up video surveillance and increased the frequency of patrols through his neighborhood, the sheriff said. "We take this very seriously," the sheriff said. "This medical-marijuana issue is definitely making people mad, and it involves a state representative." Source: http://www.denverpost.com/politics/ci_14196291

Lemon Bay High School student is charged in bomb threat. Authorities arrested a 17-year-old Lemon Bay High School student Wednesday in connection with a November bomb threat at the school. According to the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office, the girl reportedly left a note in one of the bathrooms on November 20 warning "there will be a bomb at 12:09, we will all die." It was written on toilet tissue, detectives said. The school was evacuated, while deputies went through the school and found nothing. The girl was charged with threatening to place/discharge a destructive device and disruption of an educational institution. She was booked at the Charlotte County Jail. Source: <http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20100114/ARTICLE/1141069/-1/NEWSITEMAP>

4 students arrested, charged for making 'terroristic' threats. Four high school students were arrested and charged Monday, after making terroristic threats against their school on Facebook, police said. According to investigators, the teens — all students at Belleville High School — talked about blowing up or setting fire to the school on the social media website. The alleged threats were found by a fellow student who immediately alerted school officials. The school was evacuated around 11:30 a.m. and students were sent home by the superintendent after police were notified, authorities said. A search of the school conducted by the Essex County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad turned up nothing unusual. Of the students arrested were two 16-year-old females, one 17-year-old female and a 17-year-old male. The suspects were not identified because of their ages, police said. All four students are being charged with causing a false public alarm, making terroristic threats and conspiracy. Source: <http://www.wpix.com/news/local/wpix-teens-charged-for-threats,0,4487930.story>

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Adobe offers conflicting statements on whether its software was connected to the Google attack. Adobe has said in a statement that researchers have not been able to obtain any evidence to indicate that Adobe Reader or other Adobe technologies were used in the Google incident. Adobe issued a statement on January 12, saying it was aware of a computer security incident involving a sophisticated, coordinated attack against corporate network systems managed by Adobe and other companies. In an update posted on January 14, Adobe's director of product security and privacy acknowledged the 'media coverage and headlines indicating that vulnerabilities in Adobe Reader may have been the attack vector in this incident'. He said: "Just like we always do in the case of reports of

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security vulnerabilities in an Adobe product, we have been actively tracking down samples or other information regarding potential vulnerabilities in Adobe products related to this incident.” “Similar to the McAfee researchers, we have not been able to obtain any evidence to indicate that Adobe Reader or other Adobe technologies were used as the attack vector in this incident. As far as we are aware there are no publicly known vulnerabilities in the latest versions (9.3 and 8.2) of Adobe Reader and Acrobat that we shipped on January 12, 2010. Even though we do not have any information regarding a zero-day vulnerability in an Adobe product, the sophistication of this incident also serves as a reminder to all of us the importance of layers of security to provide the best possible defense against those with malicious intent.” Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/adobe-offers-conflicting-statements-on-whether-its-software-was-connected-to-the-google-attack/article/161434/>

Alleged China attacks could test U.S. cybersecurity policy. The attacks on Google and more than 30 other Silicon Valley companies by agents allegedly working for China is focusing renewed attention on the issue of state-sponsored cyber attacks and how the U.S. government should respond to them. The U.S. has no formal policy for dealing with foreign government-led threats against U.S. interests in cyberspace. With efforts already under way to develop such a policy, the recent attacks could do a lot shape the policy and fuel its passage through Congress. On January 12, the U.S. Secretary of State released a statement asking the Chinese government for an explanation for the attacks, which raised “very serious concerns and questions.” Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9144440/Alleged_China_attacks_could_test_U.S._cybersecurity_policy

U.S. Army Website Hacked: Romanian hackers continue to have a field day with SQL injection flaws in major Website applications; a vulnerability in a U.S. Army Website that leaves the database wide open to an attacker has now been exposed. "TinKode," a Romanian hacker who previously found holes in NASA's Website, has posted a proof-of-concept on his findings on a SQL injection vulnerability in an Army Website that handles military housing, Army Housing OneStop. TinKode found a hole that leaves the site, which has since been taken offline, vulnerable to a SQL injection attack. ... TinKode was able to gain access to more than 75 databases on the server, according to his research, including potentially confidential Army data. He also discovered that the housing site was storing weak passwords in plain text. [Date: 12 January 2010; Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=222300588>]

Google threatens to leave China after massive cyberattacks: Google today said that a "highly sophisticated and targeted" attack against its network last month originated in China, and tried to access the Gmail accounts of Chinese human rights activists. In a blog post Tuesday, David Drummond, Google's chief legal officer, said that attacks have forced the company to "review the feasibility of our business operations in China." ... The end result..., said Drummond, may be that Google shuts down its search engine and closes its offices in the People's Republic of China. ... According to Drummond, Google was one of at least 20 large companies that were targeted by massive attacks in December. In Google's case, the attacks resulted in the theft of some company intellectual property. More troubling, said Drummond, was that the attacks were aimed at accessing the Gmail accounts of human rights activists in China. [Date: 12 January 2010; Source: <http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9144139/>]

Maryland aims to be cybersecurity 'epicenter'. Maryland officials want the state to be the U.S. “epicenter” for fighting cyber attacks, and on January 11 they launched an effort to bring more

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cybersecurity research and jobs to the state. Maryland has several resources that make it the perfect place to be a national — and world — leader in cybersecurity, said the Governor, speaking at a kick-off event at the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland. In addition to the NIST, Maryland is home to the U.S. National Security Agency, 12 major military installations, world-class schools such as Johns Hopkins University and dozens of top cybersecurity vendors, the governor and other officials said. Cybersecurity leadership and innovation is needed at a time when the U.S. is getting attacked from all sides, said a Maryland Democratic senator. “Cybersecurity is all-hands-on-deck and all-agencies-on-deck,” she said. The governor’s administration on January 11 released a 32-page report, called CyberMaryland, focused on ways to improve cybersecurity efforts in the state. The report calls for the state to work with the U.S. government to establish a national center of excellence in cybersecurity in the state, including a cybersecurity business incubator and an education and training center. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9143823/Maryland_aims_to_be_cybersecurity_epicenter

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

Forest Service will spend more money to manage beetles in Idaho, Minnick says. The U.S. Agriculture Secretary agreed to spend an additional \$14 million to combat bark beetles in Idaho forests. An Idaho U.S. Representative announced the funding in Nampa Thursday. “This issue has been one of my most important since taking office,” said the Representative, a former forest products industry executive. “Bark beetles are a huge menace to our forests, and throughout Idaho you can see the irreparable damage they are doing as dead and dying trees litter the mountainside,” said the ranking member of the Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittee. Source: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/environment/story/1041710.html>

Arizona may shut down two-thirds of state parks. Arizona is on the verge of permanently closing more than half of its state parks to ease its budget woes — the most drastic such proposal in the nation and one that could mean shutting down some iconic Old West locations. The plan would close the Tombstone Courthouse and the Yuma Territorial Prison, and shut down parks that draw tens of thousands of tourists a year such as Red Rock State Park in Sedona. “We don’t have a choice. It’s either shut them all down right now or shut them down in phases, and we’re picking the ones that cost the state money,” said the head of the Arizona Parks Board, which plans to take up a staff recommendation to close 13 parks by June 3. State officials closed five parks last year. If the additional closures are approved, two-thirds of the state parks in Arizona will be shut down. Arizona is not the only place where lawmakers are targeting parks, but it is taking the most aggressive action, said the executive director of the National Association of State Parks Directors. California’s governor last year proposed closing 220 of California’s 279 parks in the face of a multibillion-dollar deficit. But the governor backed off four months later after protests from park activists. Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=9565125>

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

Grenade removed from truck parked at Idaho post office. Roads around the Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, Post Office have reopened after a grenade was removed from a pickup truck. Authorities from Fairchild Air force Base removed the British explosive with the pin still in Monday afternoon. A

person, who was taking care of an elderly couple who recently died, took over their estate. In their home he found a grenade. He said he did not want it and decided to take it to the police. While he was driving through town, he called a family member and that family member suggested it wasn't a good idea to drive with an explosive device. The man then pulled over at the Coeur d'Alene Post Office. Source: <http://www.nwcn.com/news/idaho/Grenade-removed-from-truck-parked-at-Idaho-post-office-81245442.html>

Suspicious powder found in envelope in McMinnville tests negative for bioweapons. A powder substance found in an envelope Tuesday morning in McMinnville tested negative for any sort of biological weapon, authorities said Wednesday. Police responded at around 10:45 a.m. Tuesday to a hazardous material call at the Housing Authority of Yamhill County at 135 N.E. Dunn Place. The envelope was opened by an employee, but no injuries were reported. Employees of the Housing Authority have since returned to work. Source: http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/suspicious_powder_found_in_env_1.html

PUBLIC HEALTH/SAFETY/INFORMATION

Health Net sued for HIPAA violations. Connecticut's Attorney General has filed a lawsuit charging Health Net of Connecticut Inc. with violations of the HIPAA privacy and security rules following a large breach of identifiable medical records and Social Security numbers. His office believes this is the first lawsuit by a state's chief legal officer since the HITECH Act last year gave state attorneys general authority to prosecute HIPAA privacy and security violations. Parent company Health Net in Los Angeles last November reported to insurance officials in four states the disappearance in May of a hard drive with protected health information on 1.5 million members, including 446,000 in Connecticut. The data was not encrypted, but Health Net said it is invisible without the use of specific software. The company attributed the delay in reporting the breach to a lengthy forensic investigation to determine what information was on the hard drive. Source: http://www.healthdatamanagement.com/news/breach_hipaa_privacy_security_hitech_lawsuit-39645-1.html

Doctor's office evacuated after employee opens envelope filled with white powder. Authorities evacuated a doctor's office after an employee opened a envelope filled with an unknown white powder Thursday afternoon. Indian River County Fire Rescue and Sheriff's deputies were called at 3:30 p.m. to the office, the fire marshal said. The envelope with the powder also contained a threatening letter. The substance will be tested to determine its contents. Source: <http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2010/jan/14/roseland-doctors-office-evacuated-after-employee/>

Tougher rules urged to protect deadly pathogens. A federal panel has recommended that researchers who work with the world's deadliest pathogens undergo more frequent security screening. The Working Group on Strengthening the Biosecurity of the United States also suggested random drug tests and closer monitoring of the physical and mental health of those with access to dangerous pathogens. And it recommended tighter scrutiny of foreign nationals who work in U.S. labs. The former presidential administration ordered the report after the FBI concluded an Army scientist was behind the 2001 anthrax attacks that killed five people. Its recommendations will be considered by lawmakers and federal regulators seeking to improve the safety of labs that handle dangerous germs and toxins. The report was published last week. The panel recommended that those who work with dangerous pathogens undergo a security risk assessment every three years instead of

every five, the current standard. The assessment should include certain mental health indicators that the FBI currently is prohibited from using in such reviews, the panel said. Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2010/01/13/20100113biolab0113.html>

Kaiser patient data stolen. Information regarding approximately 15,000 Kaiser Permanente patients, including about 4,000 people in the Sacramento area, was stolen in December, the organization said Tuesday. Names and medical record numbers — and in some cases age, gender, phone number and general information regarding their medical care — were taken December 1 when an external electronic data storage device containing the data was stolen from a Kaiser Permanente employee's car at the employee's home in Sacramento, said the vice president of compliance and privacy for Kaiser Permanente. Kaiser said Tuesday there were no patient Social Security numbers or financial information on the device, adding that there is no evidence that the information was used inappropriately. Affected patients have been notified by Kaiser Permanente. Source:

<http://www.kcra.com/mostpopular/22220329/detail.html>

Even medical professionals lack awareness of hepatitis threat, new report finds. Hepatitis B and C remain serious threats to public health, but many healthcare providers fail to screen at-risk patients and do not know how to treat those infected with the viral diseases that can cause liver failure and cancer, according to a report released today by the National Academy of Sciences. The long-awaited assessment calls for a campaign to educate the public, doctors and lawmakers about the diseases, an approach similar to HIV/AIDS outreach that has made that issue prominent in people's minds. Researchers found that even though chronic viral hepatitis infections are three to five times more frequent than HIV in the United States, many doctors and nurses do not understand the extent and seriousness of the problem. Most of the estimated 3 million to 5 million people with chronic hepatitis B and C do not know they have the diseases. Infected people can show no signs of illness for years, and by the time they start to show symptoms, they may have already developed scarring of the liver or liver cancer and can be close to death. The 176-page report requested by federal health officials was released by the Institute of Medicine, the health arm of the National Academy of Sciences.

Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/01/even-medical-professionals-lack-awareness-of-hepatitis-threat-new-report-finds.html>

TRANSPORTATION

CSXT, Georgia team up to bolster rail security. On January 8, the governor of Georgia announced the state entered into a rail security partnership with CSX Transportation that "represents a model for use by other states." Entitled "SecureNOW," the pact calls for the state and Class I to share information, resources, and security strategies. For example, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency-Office of Homeland Security will access CSXT's network operations workstations, or NOW system, which enables state and local public safety and law enforcement officials to track the location of CSXT trains and rail-car contents in real time. In addition, the Class I will work with state and local law enforcement officials on joint rail security training and preparedness exercises, and provide round-the-clock access to its rail security professionals. Source:

<http://www.progressiverailroading.com/news/article.asp?id=22323>

Sea-Tac first to use new bird-tracking radar. Sea-Tac Airport the week of January 11 became the nation's first airport to put an advanced bird-tracking radar into service in the airport vicinity. The new radar, developed in partnership with the University of Illinois and the Federal Aviation

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Administration, allows airport wildlife experts to view in real time bird activity as they drive around the airport. The airport has been demonstrating early versions of the avian radar since 2007. Tracking birds is important on and near the airport because birds can damage planes taking off and landing. "This technology will give us situational awareness of the entire airfield day or night. It will be like wearing a huge pair of binoculars," said the airport's wildlife biologist. Knowing where birds are flying helps air traffic controllers delay takeoffs and landings until the birds have flown past and gives wildlife patrol officers the location of flocks that they can scare away. Source:

<http://www.theolympian.com/business/story/1102220.html>

Part of I-4 shut down due to possible sinkhole. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) closed all three eastbound lanes of I-4 near the Polk-Hillsborough County line because of a significant depression that formed in the road. FDOT says that the section could remain closed all of Wednesday and into Thursday. Engineers were concerned that the depression could have been the beginnings of a sinkhole, but they were able to determine Wednesday morning that it was not. 47,000 drivers a day use this stretch of the Interstate and at 6:30am traffic was backed up as far as the eye could see. Drivers traveling eastbound on the Interstate had to use the emergency lane to get around the unsafe portion of the road. FDOT discovered the problem with the roadway on Tuesday. Core samples and a ground scan helped engineers determine that part of the road had settled. At that point, two of the eastbound lanes were closed, resulting in a five mile backup. With all three lanes to remain closed through Wednesday, the backup is expected to be much worse. FDOT will drill ten holes, fill them with concrete and then re-asphalt the road. They do not expect the portion of the road to be reopened anytime Wednesday. "We just ask people to have patience. This is an emergency situation, but we need to fix the roadway so we can open it up for them," said an engineer. To the naked eye, the dip in the road does not appear to be that severe. However, FDOT says when driving a vehicle over the depression at 70 MPH it can result in a significant jolt. Source:

<http://wdbq.com/localnews/2010/01/part-of-i4-shut-down-due-to-po.html>

Laser attacks on U.K. cockpits now criminal. Shining a light or laser at an aircraft is now a specific criminal offense in the United Kingdom under a law introduced by their Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The resulting distraction to air crew is a serious safety risk, especially during critical phases of flight, such as takeoff and landing, the CAA noted in announcing the rule January 12. The CAA introduced the new law after the number of incidents in which laser devices were beamed at transports and helicopters increased 25 times in two years. In 2009, 737 laser attacks on commercial transports, air ambulances and police helicopters were reported — compared to 29 incidents in 2007. The authority listed 19 U.K. airports as "laser incident hotspots" in 2009. The five airports with the highest number of reported incidents are Manchester (51), Glasgow (42), Birmingham (40), Leeds Bradford (39), and London Heathrow (29). Previous offenders were charged under Article 73: "A person should not recklessly or negligently act in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft or any person therein," which lacked specific wording about lasers. However, laser attacks have led to only about a dozen successful prosecutions in the U.K., according to the CAA. Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=comm&id=news/awx/2010/01/12/awx_01_12_2010_p0-196274.xml

4 men removed from plane at Metro Airport. Reports of unusual behavior on board a Northwest Airlines plane from Amsterdam to Detroit caused a brief incident at Detroit Metro Airport. A Metro Airport spokesman said the crew on board Flight 243 requested that authorities meet the plane when

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it landed. The crew says four passengers did not comply with instructions. Once the plane landed, it remained on the tarmac for about 15 minutes while authorities removed four men from the plane. The rest of the passengers were taxied to the terminal where they were allowed to get off the plane. The spokesman says the incident was not a serious threat. The plane had 245 passengers and 12 flight attendants on board. Source: <http://www.wxyz.com/mostpopular/story/4-Men-Removed-from-Plane-at-Metro-Airport/yobO6bCvc0KRcUTp9wAePg.csp>

HazCom changes proposed for transporting Lithium batteries. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration published a proposed rule Monday that would amend the Hazardous Materials Regulations to increase the safety of transported lithium batteries. Besides including requirements to ensure all lithium batteries are packaged to prevent damage leading to a catastrophic incident or minimize the effects of an incident, the proposal would require the batteries to be accompanied by hazard communication that ensures appropriate and careful handling by air carrier personnel, including the flight crew, and tells transport workers and emergency response personnel what to do in an emergency. Manufacturers will have to keep results of satisfactory completion of UN design type tests for each lithium cell and battery type and also place a mark on the battery and/or cell to indicate testing has been completed successfully. For all transport modes, lithium cells and batteries will have to be packed to protect the cell or battery from short-circuits. For aviation, unless the cells or batteries are transported in a container approved by the FAA administrator, they would have to be stowed in crew-accessible cargo locations or locations equipped with an FAA-approved fire suppression system. Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2010/01/12/hazcom-changes-proposed-for-transporting-lithium-batteries.aspx?admgarea=news>

TSA: Passenger carries ammo on plane in Milwaukee. A passenger inadvertently carried shotgun shells onto a Dallas-bound Midwest Airlines plane at Milwaukee's airport on Monday before he realized his mistake and alerted flight attendants, authorities said. The man, who was not identified, did not mean any harm, saying he had forgotten that the ammunition was in his carryon bags when he boarded the flight, a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) spokesman said. TSA agents turned the ammunition over to local police and sent the man back for another security search. They then allowed him to reboard and the plane left for Dallas later Monday. "The passenger was interviewed and rescreened with negative findings," the spokesman said in a statement. "The passenger stated that he inadvertently brought the prohibited items onboard the plane and self-disclosed them when he realized they were in his possession." TSA is reviewing how the passenger got the ammunition through pre-boarding security searches. He declined to identify the man or comment further. TSA policy prohibits passengers from having firearms or ammunition in their carryon luggage. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,582803,00.html>

Sick passenger on "Do Not Board" list flies out of Philly. An investigation has been launched to find out why a man with an extremely contagious disease was allowed to fly out of Philadelphia International Airport. The man, who is infected with Tuberculosis, boarded US Airways flight 401 bound for San Francisco around 6 p.m. Saturday, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) officials said. He made it onto the flight even after being added to a "Do Not Board" list provided to the TSA and airlines from the CDC, officials confirmed. The agency adds people afflicted with dangerous, contagious diseases to the list to prevent the spread of infection in the controlled air environment of an airplane. That information is then relayed to the TSA who in turn notifies the airlines. Sources say officials realized the man was not fit to travel while he was on the plane and that he was quickly

quarantined upon arrival in San Francisco. US Airways is notifying passengers who were on the flight, sources said. CDC officials believe the risk to passengers is low due to the length of the flight. A US Airways spokesperson says the airline is working with the TSA and CDC to figure out where the fault in the "Do Not Board" system occurred. Source:

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34815230/ns/local_news-philadelphia_pa/

WATER AND DAMS

Monday fire intentionally set. An investigation into a blaze Monday that damaged a city-owned building has determined the fire was intentionally set, said a spokesman for the Topeka Fire Department. Topeka firefighters were called about 5 p.m. to the Oakland Wastewater Treatment Plant, 1115 N.E. Poplar, in response to a blaze at one of the buildings on the site, located north of Billard Park. Firefighters first on scene reported smoke showing and quickly contained the fire to an immediate area and two vehicles. The Topeka Fire Department's Investigation Unit determined the fire was intentionally set and caused an estimated \$40,000 in damage. No injuries were associated with this incident, which remains under investigation. Source: http://cjonline.com/news/local/2010-01-12/monday_fire_intentionally_set

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: ndfusion@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

ATF(Fargo): 701-293-2860

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

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