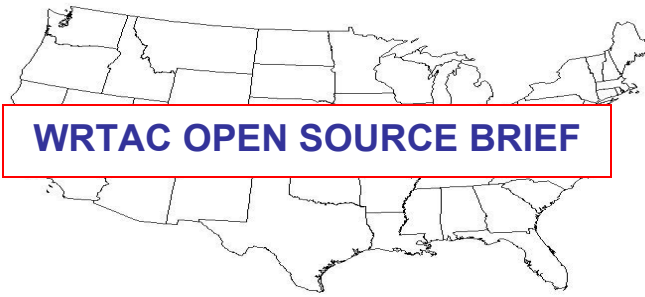


Washington Regional Threat and Analysis Center



Submit a Tip
In an Emergency Call 9-1-1



1-888-919-CRIME
Text Tip: 50411
wrtac@dc.gov or
SAR@dc.gov

Scope: Provide the private sector, our partner agencies, and local jurisdictions with current open source information relating to terrorism, homeland security, critical incident response and public safety.

Re-distribution is encouraged.

March 31, 2011
 2011-097

The WRTAC Open Source Brief is archived in the Homeland Security Digital Library and on the InfraGard member website.

New database critical to success of "See Something, Say Something"

DHS is developing effective information sharing systems with local law enforcement agencies and federal counter-terrorism offices to ensure that its new "See Something, Say Something" campaign can function effectively; the new National Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (NSARI) will create a national database and processes to sort through the increasing number of suspicious activity reports (SARs) by combining three online databases and allowing local agencies to search across all systems for information without having to change existing business practices; officials hope to complete the system by September of this year; a recent planned terrorist attack in Texas was thwarted when two tips came in using the system. <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/new-database-critical-success-see-something-say-something?page=0.0>

▶ **To report in-progress threats or emergencies,**
 call **911**

▶ **To report suspicious activity that has already occurred,**
 call **(202) 727-9099**

For more information, visit www.mpdc.dc.gov/tipp



The "see something say something" tagline used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

FBI, FDNY Probe Brooklyn Fire for Possible Domestic Terror Link

An arson fire in Bedford-Stuyvesant may have been the work of an anarchist with links to the Animal Liberation Front, law enforcement officials said Tuesday. The Brooklyn Free Store was torched on March 19 after an arsonist had tried to burn it down on two previous occasions, investigators said. The FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force has been called in to assist FDNY arson investigators because of the possible ALF connections, officials briefed on the case said. The Animal Liberation Front is considered a violent extremist group by the FBI and US Justice Department. ALF followers have engaged in illegal actions and sabotage in pursuit of "animal liberation." ALF activists in the past have tried to forcibly remove animals from research laboratories, even conducting sabotage and arson in the name of animal rights.

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/FBI-JTTF-Investigates-Brooklyn-Arson-For-Possible-ALF-118867534.html>

(Terrorism TTP)



US-Yemeni cleric: Arab unrest chance for al-Qaida

A U.S.-born radical Yemeni cleric says upheavals gripping the Arab world are an opportunity for al-Qaida fighters to see more Mideast regimes crumble, including in Libya. Anwar al-Awlaki says the turmoil "opens the door for mujahedeen from all over the world" and claims it shows America has lost its allies in the region. The cleric, believed to be hiding in largely lawless Yemen, says al-Qaida's holy warriors are "going through a moment of elation" since the revolts that started in Tunisia and Egypt, and spread to Yemen, Bahrain and Syria as massive anti-government protests. Al-Awlaki's remarks were published in al-Qaida's online magazine "Inspire" that was posted Tuesday on militant websites. The al-Qaida-linked cleric is believed to have offered inspiration to attacks in the United States.

(Terrorism TTP)



http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2011/03/31/general-ml-yemen-al-qaida_8383930.html

Explosive-Type Material Found in Sissonville, Chief Deputy Says

Kanawha County, West Virginia, emergency responders said they successfully destroyed more than 1,600 pounds of explosives after they were discovered near a trash fire March 29. But, the move was just one of a series of incidents that kept officials busy all day. A West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection spokesman said during the weekend of March 26 and 27, a person was caught burning tires. Crews returned March 29 to the site near Sissonville to clean up two methamphetamine dumping sites found where the tires were burned. As emergency responders were working on that, Sissonville fire officials got a call about a trash fire at a home off Walker Drive, about 3 miles from where the dumping sites were being cleaned. The fire burned near a trailer that was left at the site of an abandoned mine. Inside the trailer, there was more than 1,600 pounds of explosives, including 128 10-pound explosive charges and eight 50-pound bags of ammonium nitrate. The property owner said he did not think it was that big of a deal. A sergeant said, "Anytime you're dealing with explosives, you're dealing with a hazard to the public." Officials brought in a bomb squad and set up a nearby staging area. They spent hours handling the explosive material and did a controlled burn to destroy it. Officials said nobody was hurt.

(Criminal TTP)



http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/BREAKING_NEWS_Investigators_Find_Explosives_Meth_Lab_Near_Sissonville_Dispatchers_Say_118861684.html

Police make Toronto airport "terrorism" arrest

A man was arrested for "terrorism-related offenses" at Toronto's international airport just before he was about to board an airplane bound for North Africa, Canadian police said on Wednesday. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said 25-year-old Canadian citizen Mohamed Hassan Hersi was headed to Somalia to join al Shabaab, which police said is a hard-line Islamist group that has ties to al Qaeda. Hersi was arrested Tuesday evening at Toronto's Pearson International Airport, moments before he was to board a one-way flight to Cairo via London, the RCMP said. They said Hersi planned to travel to Somalia from Cairo. The RCMP said that they, along with Toronto police, have been investigating Hersi since October 2010. Finn would not comment on additional suspects or charges.

(Terrorism TTP)



<http://ca.news.yahoo.com/police-terrorism-arrest-toronto-airport-20110330-071157-551.html>

Lasko Recalls Box Fans Due To Fire Hazard

This recall involves Lasko box fans with model numbers 3720, 3723, and 3733 and Galaxy box fans with model number 4733 that have date "2002-03" or "2003-04" stamped on the bottom of the metal frame. "Lasko" or "Galaxy" is printed on the front of the fan. The model number is either stamped or printed on the bottom of the fans. Sold at: Mass merchandisers nationwide from July 2002 through December 2005 for between \$12 and \$25. Problem An electrical failure in the fan's motor poses a fire hazard to consumers. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled fans and contact Lasko to receive a free fused plug safety adapter. Find Out More <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml11/11183.html>

(Public Safety)



Resources

GlobalIncidentMap.com

A Global Display of Terrorism And Other Suspicious Events

DomesticTerrorMap.com

Washington DC Links

Live Traffic Reports <http://www.ddot.dc.gov/traffic>

Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency <http://hsema.dc.gov/dcema/site/default.asp>

DC Department of Health <http://dchealth.dc.gov/doh/site/default.asp>

Sign-up for Alerts <https://textalert.ema.dc.gov/index.php?CCheck=1>

To request a DC Government Service, call 311 or 202-727-1000, also online at <http://src.dc.gov>

About WRTAC: The Washington Regional Threat & Analysis Center is the District of Columbia's fusion center. The WRTAC was formed in 2007 in order to facilitate prevention, response, and mitigation to criminal and terrorist activities, as well as man-made and/or natural disasters by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating diverse intelligence information and intelligence products.

WRTAC supports multidisciplinary, proactive, risk-based, and community-focused problem solving. WRTAC provides a continuous flow of information and intelligence to officials to assist in developing a depiction of evolving threats and mitigation strategies.



The WRTAC Open Source Brief is produced by the Washington Regional Threat and Analysis Center. For a free email subscription, email wrtac@dc.gov

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