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UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA**

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**Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council**

**NEWSLETTER**



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*Open Source News reporting Summary: This collection of open source information is offered for informational purposes only. It is not, and should not be, construed as official evaluated intelligence.*

## **A decade after Oklahoma City, FBI wrestles with demons**

Ten years ago this month, a Ryder truck rigged with explosives detonated in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people--most of them government employees. It was the deadliest terrorist act in the United States, until the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001. Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, who served in the Army together during the first Gulf War, were convicted for the Oklahoma City bombing. McVeigh was executed in 2001 and Nichols is serving a life sentence in prison. But to this day questions linger about whether they acted alone.

Full story: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0405/041805c2.htm>

## **Border Patrol agents in Arizona face increased confrontations**

In the rocky, expansive desert here separating the United States and Mexico, attacks on federal law enforcement officials are on the rise this year. Meanwhile, volunteers from a citizens patrol have flocked to the area to monitor the border. The Border Patrol's Tucson Sector, which covers all of Arizona except for Yuma, reports that shootings and assaults against its agents are increasing. During the first six months of this fiscal year, sector officials recorded 132 assaults on agents, including 15 shootings. For all of last fiscal year, only 118 assaults were reported.

Full story: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0405/041805c1.htm>

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## FBI teams with Mexico to probe international gang

Effort to counter **Mara Salvatrucha** focuses on Chiapas state, a center of human smuggling.

In an intensifying international effort to combat the Mara Salvatrucha street gang, FBI officials and Mexican authorities met Thursday in Washington to launch an initiative to share intelligence on the group, particularly in the key southern state of Chiapas. "These people respect no borders," said Robert F. Clifford, head of a nationwide FBI task force targeting MS-13. "This represents **combating Mara Salvatrucha on an international scale ... as an international organized-crime problem.**" MS-13 members in Chiapas, where thousands of immigrants hop trains after crossing from Guatemala, demand payment for "protection" on the journey north. They also serve as guides, taking Central and South Americans to Mexican border cities for fees ranging from \$500 to \$1,500

Full story: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-na-gang15apr15,1,1887053.story?coll=la-headlines-world>



## Driving in U.S. made easier for Mexicans under bill

A House committee has advanced a bill that would allow Mexican nationals to get a driver's license using a Matricula Consular. "We, giving somebody who's here **illegally a driver's license in the state of Texas, we are subverting federal law,**" Garcia told the House Committee on Border and International Affairs on Wednesday. Currently, the federal government has asked states not to accept the Mexican ID cards as sufficient documentation for receiving a driver's license, but some states have gone ahead with the legislation anyway.

Full story:

<http://www.themonitor.com/SiteProcessor.cfm?Template=/GlobalTemplates/Details.cfm&StoryID=6728&Section=Local>

## Driver's license curtailed as identification

Critics Call 'Real ID' Issue Forcefully Anti-Immigrant. **Hispanics object to Utah replacing driver's licenses of undocumented workers with driving privilege cards.**



Camarillo is about to lose her license. The cleaning woman from Michoacan, Mexico, is among tens of thousands of illegal immigrants whose licenses will be voided under a state law that took effect March 8.

A precursor to the "Real ID Act" pending in the U.S. Senate, the Utah law gives undocumented workers such as Camarillo "driving privilege cards" instead of licenses. **The document authorizes driving but declares in bold red letters that it cannot be used as legal identification.** Many Hispanics, including U.S. citizens, are outraged by the change. "You work hard, you pay the same taxes as anybody else, but the state legislature brands you as second-rate," noted veteran activist John Florez of Salt Lake City. "I'm sorry to say it, but the real point here is racism." Responds state Sen. Curtis S. Bramble (R), who sponsored the new state law: **"Tell me how granting a privilege to somebody who is here illegally can be called punitive.** We are letting people drive. They can get [auto]

insurance. But they can't use this card to buy firearms or serve on a jury or vote. Those are rights for citizens."

Full story: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A59517-2005Apr16.html>

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## Mexican army escorts border drug-runners

The Mexican army is escorting those attempting to cross over the U.S. border illegally – including known drug-runners – to areas not patrolled by the Minuteman Project near Naco, Ariz., say Border Patrol sources and other officials including a U.S. congressman. "The president of Mexico is threatening to sue any member of the Minutemen who have contact with a Mexican national, threatening to take the U.S. into the International Court of Justice at the Hague over the passage of Prop 200 in Arizona, and is providing transportation to Mexican nationals trying to sneak into the U.S.

Full story:

[http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE\\_ID=43754](http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=43754)

### **Related Reporting**

#### **Mexican Military not helping illegals, Mexican Embassy says**

<http://www.cnsnews.com/ViewNation.asp?Page=%5CNation%5Carchive%5C200504%5CNAT20050414a.html>

#### **Human Rights Commission Proposes Judicial Method to Arrest “Migrant Hunters”**

The Mexican National Human Rights Commission is calling for the U.S. government to arrest the Minuteman Project volunteers *for interfering with illegal migration* in Arizona. The Commission is calling for close oversight of the volunteers, restriction of their movement, and for them to be arrested if any irregularities occur. Translated from 08 April 2005 source:

[http://www.notimex.com.mx/restringido/indexmex.php?going\\_to=noticiamex.php&noticia\\_id=1376209&ateg=&categoria\\_id=A](http://www.notimex.com.mx/restringido/indexmex.php?going_to=noticiamex.php&noticia_id=1376209&ateg=&categoria_id=A)

#### **Government Investigates Arrests of Illegal Migrants by U.S. Military; Presents Legal Plan of Action against Migrant-Hunters**

Undersecretary for the United States Gerónimo Gutiérrez reported that the Mexican government is investigating the arrests of 12 illegal migrants by U.S. Army personnel. According to information from the SRE, *the group of migrants accidentally entered the Fort Huachuca, Arizona base near the border*. The illegal migrants were arrested by Military Police and subsequently turned over to the USBP, without any apparent harm. In related matters, Gutiérrez delivered a special report to the SRE yesterday on the activities of the Minuteman Project group. According to the report, the numbers of Minuteman volunteers has decreased significantly, in contrast with the increasing presence of the media and human rights groups, such as the ACLU. Additionally, the report contained part of a four-point legal plan that can be used by the government in cases of abuse against illegal migrants. Translated from 12 April 2005 source:

<https://secure.milenio.com/cliente/login.aspx?urlRef=/nota.asp?id=199490>

## Nuevo Laredo police chief and Ciudad Juarez alcohol inspector assassinated

Gunmen shot and killed Nuevo Laredo's recently-appointed police chief, Juan Antonio Santos Salazar, late April 13 in the latest incident *underscoring the precarious security situation along the U.S.-Mexican border*. The assailants, who remain unidentified, murdered the police chief at approximately 2000 local time outside his home in the city's Colonia Jardin neighborhood. A police spokesman said a replacement police chief had been named, but that the official would remain anonymous indefinitely to avoid a similar fate. Santos Salazar had only been in his post since January. This murder follows the April 11 assassination of Ciudad Juarez Alcohol Inspector Victor del Villar Chavarria. Villar Chavarria reported receiving death threats after ordering, in early April, the closure of many bars near the bus station in central Ciudad Juarez, which borders the Texas city of El Paso. Villar Chavarria said the establishments also distributed narcotics to their clientele.

### **COMMENT:**

These murders provide even further evidence of *the ongoing public security crisis along the U.S.-Mexican border*. Much of the violence is concentrated in Tamaulipas state (where Nuevo Laredo is located). Press agencies report that approximately 150 federal agents have been deployed in Nuevo Laredo to improve security in the area, although no official source has corroborated this assertion. On April 10, state officials

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issued a recommendation that journalists who fear for their safety should apply for a special permit to carry a firearm. Gunmen on April 5 shot and killed former Nuevo Laredo Bar Association President Fernando Partida Castaneda and critically wounded reporter Guadalupe Garcia Escamilla, who was investigating a corruption scandal that implicates the state police commander. In the northern Veracruz town of Papantla (just south of the state of Tamaulipas), heavily-armed gunmen April 8 shot and killed the manager of daily newspaper *La Opinion de Poza Rica*, the day after the journal published a story citing insufficient security in the state.

## North Carolina bust of illegal aliens maintaining jets raises safety concerns

About 3 1/2 years after 9-11, more than two dozen alleged illegal aliens -- including four from so-called countries of special interest for terrorist activity -- got jobs maintaining commercial jetliners in North Carolina. They passed through criminal background checks and Social Security screenings. Six held the Federal Aviation Administration's top mechanical certification, allowing them to clear airplanes to return to service. "Any time we have individuals working at critical infrastructure locations like airports that are not who they say they are and may be utilizing fraudulent documents, it does pose a potential security threat." "It exposes a vulnerability, and it also shows that a potential terrorist or criminal could do the same thing."

Full story: <http://www.officer.com/article/article.jsp?siteSection=8&id=22969>

### Related Reporting

**Navy contract workers found to be illegal immigrants**

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20050414-1605-ca-immigrantraid.html>

## ETA terrorists 'fake pregnancy to hide bombs'

Members of the armed Basque separatist group ETA have been faking pregnancies in order to transport explosives around their waists. Spanish daily 'El Mundo' reported on Monday that the trick was discovered on 17 February when two presumed ETA members, Mikel Orbegozo and Sara Majarenas, were arrested in Valencia in eastern Spain. During the operation police found a foam mould shaped like a pregnant woman's belly, inside which were placed 25 sticks of dynamite of 100g each. The activists had sprinkled the explosives with pepper in order to prevent sniffer dogs from detecting the scent

Full story:

[http://www.expatica.com/source/site\\_article.asp?subchannel\\_id=81&story\\_id=18914&name=ETA+terrorists+%27fake+pregnancy+to+hide+bombs%27](http://www.expatica.com/source/site_article.asp?subchannel_id=81&story_id=18914&name=ETA+terrorists+%27fake+pregnancy+to+hide+bombs%27)

## Ressam provided detailed information on terror suspects



Ahmed Ressam, the Algerian convicted of planning a year 2000 terrorist attack on the U.S., has provided federal agents with detailed information on individuals "identified as significant players in al-Qaida and other terrorist networks," according to documents filed in court yesterday. All told, the 37-year-old Ressam provided information on more than 100 people, according to documents his lawyers submitted in court in preparation for his sentencing later this month. Ressam, who was arrested in Port Angeles on Dec. 14, 1999, with a car loaded with bomb-making material, was convicted in May 2001 of conspiracy to commit an act of international terrorism and eight other related counts.

Full story: [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2002239797\\_ressam13m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2002239797_ressam13m.html)

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### 3 indicted in suspected plot on east coast finance sites

Three men have been indicted in the suspected terrorist plot at financial institutions in New York, New Jersey and Washington that led to the security crackdown last summer in the Northeast, the Justice Department announced Tuesday. A four-count federal indictment unsealed Tuesday said the men conducted scouting missions from the summer of 2000 through April 2001 at the New York Stock Exchange and Citicorp building in New York, the Prudential Building in Newark and the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in Washington. The three men charged in the indictment were among the eight suspects jailed and charged in Britain last August in connection with the plot against the financial centers.

Full story: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/04/13/international/13terror.html?th&emc=th>

#### *Related Reporting*

**Three British nationals have been indicted by a federal grand jury in Manhattan on charges of conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction, providing material support and resources to terrorists, and conspiring to damage and destroy buildings.**

[http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2005/April/05\\_crm\\_180.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2005/April/05_crm_180.htm)

#### **Analysis: Terror threat averted**

<http://www.wpherald.com/storyview.php?StoryID=20050413-112521-2532r>

**The indictment is available in PDF format at**

<http://www.foxnews.com/projects/pdf/hindi.pdf>

#### **COMMENT:**

The men currently face stiff sentences in the U.K. and, if the cases against them hold up in court, it is unlikely that they will ever undergo trial in the U.S. The U.S. indictment offers U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair, embroiled in a tough re-election campaign, a timely opportunity to showcase a hard line against terrorism and independence from U.S. pressure by making it clear that the men will serve time in a British prison if convicted. Blair has faced intense criticism for his unwavering loyalty to U.S. policy in Iraq, as other key coalition partners have either withdrawn their forces or announced withdrawal dates in the face of domestic opposition.

### CAIR leader convicted on terror charges

*Founding board member of Texas chapter funded Hamas*



A founder of the Texas chapter of a highly influential U.S. Islamic lobby group was found guilty of supporting terrorism. Ghassan Elashi, along with two brothers, was convicted in Dallas yesterday of channeling funds to a high-ranking official of the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas, Mousa Abu Marzook. Elashi was a board member of the Texas chapter of the Washington, D.C.-based [Council on American Islamic Relations](#) -- the third CAIR figure to be convicted on federal terrorism charges since 9-11. Other CAIR figures convicted since 9-11 are Randall Todd "Ismail" Royer, a former communications specialist and civil rights coordinator, and Bassem Khafagi, former director of community relations. Royer was sentenced to 20 years in prison on charges he [trained in Virginia for holy war against the United States](#) and sent several members to Pakistan to join Lashkar-e-Taiba, a Kashmiri terrorist group with reported ties to al-Qaida.

Full story: [http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE\\_ID=43805](http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=43805)

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## Bilal al-Hiyari accused of providing funds to Zarqawi terror network

The U.S. Department of the Treasury today designated Bilal Mansur Al-Hiyari for providing financial support to the Zarqawi Network, an al Qaida-affiliated terrorist group active in the insurgency in Iraq. "By designating financiers like Al-Hiyari, we're making it harder and riskier for the Zarqawi Network to raise and move money in support of its brutal attacks against U.S. troops, coalition partners and the Iraqi people," The U.S. and Iraq are submitting Al-Hiyari to the United Nations 1267 Committee, which will consider adding him to the consolidated list of terrorists tied to al Qaida, UBL and the Taliban.

Full story: <http://www.allamericanpatriots.com/m-news+article+storyid-9229.html>

**For more information on the 1267 Committee (sanctions list) please see:**

<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm>

and

<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267Template.htm>

## Mystery flight

*Two passengers trigger alarms—and fresh echoes of 9/11.*

It's part of the routine for air travel since 9/11. Fifteen minutes after KLM Flight 685 took off from Amsterdam for Mexico City on April 8, Mexican authorities forwarded the names of all the passengers to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The reason: the flight was scheduled to pass through U.S. airspace after making a long swing over Canada. The information was then passed on to the U.S. National Targeting Center, based at a secret address in the Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C. That's when the routine became extraordinary: by the time the Boeing 747 had finished its three-hour crossing of the Atlantic, Homeland Security screeners were on high alert. The names of two Saudi passengers aboard the KLM flight had begun producing "hits" on the screening center's lists of 70,000 suspect foreigners.

Full story: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/7529185/site/newsweek/>

## Police killer and his plot to poison Britain

*The chemicals and equipment found in the flat could have made enough poison to kill hundreds.*



An AL-QAEDA suspect has been jailed for murdering a Special Branch detective and plotting to terrorise Britain with the deadly poison ricin, it was revealed yesterday. Police believe Kamel Bourgass, 31, a failed Algerian asylum-seeker, planned to smear poison on door handles of cars and buildings in London and to use it in a spray or to contaminate consumer products. His home-made chemical weapons laboratory, in a flat in Wood Green, north London, *included recipes and ingredients to make [ricin](#), [cyanide](#) and [botulinum](#)* - one of the most toxic substances known to man - and a blueprint for a bomb

Full story: <http://thescotsman.scotsman.com/index.cfm?id=391582005>

### **Related Reporting**

**TOXIC TERRORIST: ONE GRAM KILLS 80,000**

[http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/allnews/tm\\_objectid=15399884&method=full&siteid=50143&headline=toxic-terrorist--one-gram-kills-80-000--name\\_page.html](http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/allnews/tm_objectid=15399884&method=full&siteid=50143&headline=toxic-terrorist--one-gram-kills-80-000--name_page.html)

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## Russian Cossacks to fight terrorism

A draft law on Cossacks was submitted by the administration of President Vladimir Putin to the Russian State Duma (Parliament) April 13. The law, if it passes the scrutiny of the deputies, will define the role of Cossacks within the state and will integrate their services into the law enforcement, military and even counter-terrorist operations. The financing of the services will be provided from the federal and regional budgets.

### COMMENT:

Cossacks in the pre-1917 Russian Empire were used by the government to guard the Tsars, patrol the borders, maintain public order, collect taxes and take part in vicious pogroms against Jews. They were highly mobile, heavily armed, fearsome horsemen with a reputation for brutality, who helped the Tsars to colonize Siberia, Central Asia and the Caucasus. At the beginning of the last century there were 11 Cossack armies in Russia with approximately 474,000 soldiers spread from the Russian Amur in the Far East to the Ukrainian border. Some of their military traditions have survived until today, and there is evidence that they served as mercenaries in Abkhazia, Chechnya, and former Yugoslavia. The new generations are ready again to be soldiers for hire and the new law will make it legitimate for the state to use them.

## Cell mates?

*While investigating a Memphis-Morocco marriage scam, FBI agents find hidden weapons, \$34,000 in cash, passports, and a gruesome Arabic videotape.*

On April 4th, nine FBI agents executed a search warrant at the Raleigh home of a convicted felon named Rafat Jamal Mawlawi, a Syrian with dual citizenship in the United States. Mawlawi is suspected of organizing a scam to illegally bring Moroccan men into the United States by arranging sham marriages and engagements to women from Memphis. What the FBI found was much more troubling: a hidden stash of loaded weapons and ammunition clips, \$34,000 in cash, two pictures of Mawlawi shouldering a rocket-propelled grenade launcher, a gruesome videotape of war casualties with Arabic text and voiceover, and more than 20 passports to Morocco, Syria, Iran, and other Middle Eastern countries.

Full story: <http://www.memphisflyer.com/content.asp?ArticleID=2&ID=7180>

### *Related Reporting*

*Tunisian man pleads guilty to sham marriage to former football player*

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/n/a/2005/04/11/state/n204422D63.DTL>



## Stop Eco-Violence!

Environmental vigilantism is on the rise and it's for real. Over the years, criminal acts of willful destruction and personal harassment committed in the name of the environment by extremists have inflicted significant, inexcusable harm on private citizens, law-abiding businesses, institutions and local communities. These so-called "direct actions" have threatened lives and even derailed scientific research, some of which had been aimed at environmental conservation and curing disease.

Like many others, this home being built in Bloomington, Indiana was torched by extremists, looking to stop urban sprawl.

Full story: <http://www.stopecoviolence.com/>

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## National Incident Management System (NIMS)

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) integrates effective practices in emergency preparedness and response into a comprehensive national framework for incident management. The NIMS will enable responders at all levels to work together more effectively to manage domestic incidents no matter what the cause, size or complexity. **The benefits of the NIMS system will be significant:**



- Standardized organizational structures, processes and procedures;
- Standards for planning, training and exercising, and personnel qualification standards;
- Equipment acquisition and certification standards;
- Interoperable communications processes, procedures and systems;
- Information management systems; and
- Supporting technologies – voice and data communications systems, information systems, data display systems and specialized technologies.

***For more information on NIMS please see:*** <http://www.fema.gov/nims/>

## Featured Internet Site



The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is the public health agency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture responsible for ensuring that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged.

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Home/index.asp>

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