

Protect New York: Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- New technology used in the trucking industry.
- Airport security measures.
- Homeland security and emergency personnel.
- Biomedical research, disease control and prevention.
- Contingency planning, emergency and natural disaster management.

Inside this issue:

New Technology	1
Food for Thought	1
Monthly Update	2
General Interest	2
About Protect New York	3
Readers section	3
About the editors	3

Volume 1 Issue 5

Newsletter Date: February 2010



New Technology in the Field

New technology has been implemented for use in the trucking industry. Specifically, this technology provides, among other things, 24/7 situational awareness by real-time monitoring and tracking of the location and movement of mobile assets, sensors that provide a security alert notification when pre-established key contacts are tripped on the cargo, and trailer disconnect information that provides notifications when a trailer has either been disconnected from its assigned truck or connected to a truck to which it has not been originally assigned.

Food for Thought: Airport Security Measures that Come Out of Orwell's 1984 Novel

In light of the recent events, it is important to dedicate yet another 'Food for Thought' section of the newsletter to airport security.

I would like to draw your attention to something that has actually kept individuals safer at airports – vigilant passengers and flight crew members. In 2002, an airline stewardess noticed a passenger (later identified as Richard Reid) trying to light explosives in his shoe. In December 2009, a passenger's quick-thinking response prevented Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab from lighting the explosives that were hidden in his underpants and blowing up the airplane. What is the sig-

nificance of these events? These events demonstrate how airport security technology did not identify these terrorists – ordinary people did. What does this mean for airport security? Is there a way for airport security measures to address suspicious behavior? Can such measures 'observe' behavior that may indicate that someone is planning to blow up a plane?

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) already uses behavior detection screeners at airports to spot terrorists and other dangerous travelers through subtle clues in the way these individuals are acting. US government officials, TSA

agents and security professional have also entertained the idea of implementing WeCU Technologies (get it?) at the airport. These technologies, developed by an Israeli company and implemented at the Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv, claim to be able to detect passengers suspicious behavior.

These technologies are reminiscent of George Orwell's Thought Police in his novel *1984*. Can the WeCU technology really deliver on what it claims to offer – insight into an individual's intent? And if so, are we prepared to allow such technologies to be used at our airports?

Monthly Update on Security Issues

Why America and China will clash

“Google’s clash with China is about much more than the fate of a single, powerful firm. The company’s decision to pull out of China, unless the government there changes its policies on censorship, is a harbinger of increasingly stormy relations between the US and China.” Read more at: http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e9306da0-0461-11df-8603-00144feabdc0.html?nclick_check=1

US accused of 'occupying' Haiti as troops flood in

Let no good deed go unpunished.... “US commanders insisted their forces' focus was on humanitarian work and last night agreed to prioritize aid arrivals to the airport over military flights, after the intervention of the UN.”

Read more at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/centralamericaandthecaribbean/haiti/7020908/US-accused-of-occupying-Haiti-as-troops-flood-in.html>

Terror Suspects Win Case Against U.K.

“Two terror suspects won the right to seek compensation from the British government over the restrictions imposed upon their activities since 2006.” Read more at:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704541004575010770644506244.html?mod=WSJ_hpp_sections_world

Terrorist mastermind of plot to bomb Toronto to spend at least 6 years in prison

“The "directing mind" of a terrorist bomb plot that a judge said would have killed many people and perhaps changed the lives of all Canadians forever will spend at least the next six years in prison.” Read more at:

http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=cp_n0118111A.xml&show_article=1

US National debt clock *et al.*

See the spiraling debt, bankruptcies, population, revenue etc of the US at <http://www.usdebtclock.org/>

Elderly Populations in Disasters: Hospital Guidelines for Geriatric Preparedness The *Geriatric Preparedness* toolkit, developed by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, is designed to assist hospitals in the treatment and management of elderly patients during disasters. Read more at:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/bhpp/bhpp.shtml>

General Interests Sites

Tracking the progress of H1N1 swine flu: view the worldwide spread of the H1N1 virus at <http://flutracker.rhizalabs.com/>

Mass casualty event preparedness and response: visit the CDC site for emergency preparedness and response at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/masscasualties/>

FEMA Continuity Evaluation Tool: see how FEMA evaluates its department and agency continuity programs at <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/coop/cet.pdf>

Global Disease Outbreak Mapping/ Monitoring Website: HealthMap brings together disparate data sources to achieve a

unified and comprehensive view of the current global state of infectious diseases and their effect on human and animal health at <http://www.healthmap.org/en>

US Severe Weather Map: shows severe weather throughout the US at <http://www.wunderground.com/severe.asp>

National Weather Situation Page: obtain free emergency notification at <http://www.vuetoo.com/vue1/SituationPageNews.asp?sit=27>

Government Emergency Telecommunications System (GETS): read all about GETS at <http://gets.ncs.gov/index.html>

Protect New York's goal is to safeguard New York State and the Metropolitan New York area from terrorism and disaster through research, education, and public service.

PROTECT NEW YORK

Protect New York
Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute
of Government
Albany, New York

We are on the web
www.protectnewyork.org


Protect New York

About Protect New York

The catastrophic risks that New York State faces from terrorism and other disasters will challenge us for generations. To create and disseminate knowledge on ever better ways of protecting ourselves, New York must foster excellence in research, education, and public service. Founded at SUNY Downstate Medical Center, in Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 24, 2006, *Protect New York* is dedicated to helping New York State and New York City meet this challenge.

Readers Section

We at Protect New York rely on our readership to scan the environment and send in articles of interest so that we may spread the word. To this end, if you have web links or articles that you consider may be of interest then please e-mail your suggestions to phancock@buffalo.edu for consideration by the editors.

About the Editors

Dr. Marie-Helen Maras is an international editor for the *Journal of Applied Security Research*. She is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Farmingdale State College (SUNY). She was awarded her PhD in Law from the Center for Criminology, University of Oxford, UK in 2008. She also has graduate degrees in Criminology and Criminal Justice (University of Oxford, UK) and Industrial and Organizational Psychology (University of New Haven) and undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Computer and Information Science (University of Maryland University College). Marie gained extensive law enforcement and security experience from her posts in the military as a Navy Law Enforcement Specialist and Command Investigator. Her main research interests are security, surveillance, terrorism and counter terrorism.

Dr. Philip George Hancock is a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University at Buffalo (SUNY). Dr. Hancock's experience includes fourteen years in management in the Scottish Prison Service and three years part-time in the British Army. His main interest is operations research and his publications include articles appearing in *The Prison Journal*, *Journal of the Operational Research Society*, *International Journal of Service Sciences* and the *Journal of Applied Security Research*.