

NEWS RELEASE

Tracy Dorsey-Chapman, Media Contact
US Courthouse Room 4000
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
1-800-659-8726 or (304) 345-2200

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT FROM THE US ATTORNEY Recent Terrorist Indicators

The media has recently reported various governmental warnings about "increased chatter" and the potential of pending terrorist activity in the United States. The government's warnings and measures have prevented terrorist activities but, paradoxically, have caused many to let their guard down; when terrorist activities do not occur, we see the "crying wolf" phenomenon. The fact of the matter is that there IS "increased chatter" and other very disturbing signs of preparatory steps being taken by possible terrorists here in the United States. We let down our guard at our own peril in these times.

It may be valuable to relate just a few of very recent, actual suspicious activities in our region which indicate very real threats are present. Law enforcement have received fairly regular and disturbing reports from power stations, industrial plants, and similar facilities of suspicious surveillance by foreigners who have tried to avoid detection. Monitoring of the airwaves in the past few weeks have detected transmissions which speak of aircraft threats. We are see increasing instances of theft of uniforms, credentials, and specialized equipment from law enforcement officers, intelligence agents, and supply stores. Normal law enforcement car stops have turned up suspicious individuals who are heavily armed and possess items which could be used in a terrorist attack. Monitoring of Al-Qaeda-affiliated sites are beginning to contain warnings to Muslims working for "companies, especially the airlines, the oil companies, and others run by the Christians."

Recent warnings of "increased chatter" and an elevated threat should be taken very seriously by all, especially during upcoming political conventions, during the approaching 9/11 anniversary commemorations, during holiday celebrations, the football season, and other events where large groups congregate, and as the general elections draw near. Law enforcement and anti-terrorism personnel are doing great work to protect us, but I encourage everyone to remain alert and err on the side of over-reporting to law enforcement anything which may be suspicious. Our collective safety depends on it.

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