



National Infrastructure Protection Center

NIPC Daily Open Source Report for 21 February 2003

Current Nationwide Threat Level is



[For info click here](#)

www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The Associated Press reports a 2300–gallon fuel tanker, carrying kerosene and fuel oil, was stolen on Thursday from an energy supplier's lot in Frederick, MD; law enforcement agencies all over the eastern U.S. are on the look out. (See item [2](#))
- The New York Times reports New York subway officials are rechecking the safety of their subway cars after the recent Korean subway fire disaster. (See item [9](#))
- Water Tech Online reports that with a second contaminant found in the Canadian Etchemin River, the search for contaminants has been upgraded from an inquiry to an investigation. (See item [14](#))
- CERT has released advisory CA–2003–05: Multiple vulnerabilities exist in Oracle software; and depending on the vulnerability being exploited, an attacker may be able to execute arbitrary code, read, modify, or delete information stored in underlying Oracle databases, or cause a denial of service. (See item [22](#))

NIPC Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: High, Cyber: High

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *February 20, Platts Global Energy News* — U.S. FERC sets rules for energy infrastructure data. Attempting to balance the public's right to know with growing security concerns in the post–Sept 11 environment, the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Thursday established new procedures for gaining access to information about energy

projects. Under the rules, general location information about new projects and existing facilities will be readily available to landowners and others, while more detailed data will be kept under wraps and released only in limited circumstances. While no longer available for remote access through the commission's Web site, general routing information still will be provided to landowners and others in paper form through the FERC public reference room and in routine reports and notices that energy companies must prepare and disseminate.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/electricpower1.html>

2. *February 20, Associated Press* — **Tanker stolen from energy supplier . Frederick police are asking law enforcement agencies all over the eastern U.S. to look out for a 2300-gallon fuel tanker that was stolen from an energy supplier's lot in Frederick, MD.** Frederick police say Griffith Energy workers noticed this morning that the gate of the lot had been tampered with and that there had been a break-in at the lot. Then they noticed that the service truck was missing. **It was a split tanker carrying kerosene and fuel oil. Police Lieutenant Bryan Brown says city police notified State Police, the FBI and issued a bulletin to law enforcement agencies east of the Mississippi River. Brown says his officers have no indication the theft is terrorism related, but they are taking the report seriously.**

Source: http://www.wusatv9.com/news/news_article.asp?storyid=14902

3. *February 19, Petroleum Economist* — **New wind blows in U.S. power.** More than 5,000 wind turbines dot the landscape of the Tehachapi Valley, in the mountains between the San Joaquin Valley of California and the Mojave Desert. They are part of the 40-square-mile Tehachapi Pass wind farm, the largest windpower complex in the world, in terms of power produced – generating as much as 1.3 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity. **Tehachapi Pass is one of a number of wind farms built in the U.S. since the early 1980s. In 2001, new building added 1.695 GW of capacity, bringing total installed US wind-power capacity to 4.23 GW, says the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA). Thanks to technological advances and government incentives, the cost of wind-generated electricity continues to fall, making it more competitive with other sources. Averaging about \$0.051/ kilowatt hour (kWh) in 1995, it could drop to \$0.035/kWh, the Electric Power Research Institute says.** The U.S. is not alone in its increasing interest in wind power. According to the Princeton Environmental Institute, global wind capacity has grown by an average of 25% annually since 1990. By 2020, some sources claim, about 10% of the world's electricity could be generated by wind.

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3657109

4. *February 19, PR Newswire* — **Electricity customers celebrate 39% rate cut, thanks to restructuring. Lower electric bills for nearly 25,000 Duquesne Light electric heat customers is just the most recent positive result from Pennsylvania's electricity restructuring law, according to Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture), the statewide public interest organization devoted to protecting and promoting Pennsylvania's environment and economy.** "Pennsylvania's decision to change the way customers can buy electricity has resulted in lower rates across the state, with the Pittsburgh area saving the most," said John Hanger, PennFuture President and CEO and former member of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. "Newly empowered consumers across the state have saved more than \$2.82 billion since January, 1997 — now that's a record to be proud of!" This month's rate cut by Duquesne Light comes as a result of the elimination of the Competitive Transition Charge (CTC), a fee placed on customers' bills to pay off the company's

uneconomical investments made while the monopoly market was in place. Duquesne is the state's first utility to finish paying off those bad debts, with more than one-half million customers having their rates cut so far. **"Lower price isn't the only good news -- green energy, something rarely heard of before restructuring, is a new burgeoning industry in the state,"** continued Hanger. **"Many customers are using their savings to switch to cleaner electricity. Wind farms are springing up around the state, responding to the demand from these residential and business customers.** It is clear that electricity restructuring has been good for both Pennsylvania's environment and our economy.

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_national.htm?SMDOCID=comtex_2003_02_19_pr_0000-3815-pa-citizens-for-paa>

5. *February 19, Saint Paul Pioneer Press* — **Small plants offer energy possibility . Today's gargantuan power plants might one day be replaced by lots of smaller, cleaner and more efficient generating stations like the one nestled in downtown St. Paul, a legislative committee was told Monday. As the plant's manager pointed out to lawmakers, the Capitol itself is heated by steam generated at the District Energy St. Paul facility.** "To my knowledge, this is the first state capitol in the country that is served by 'green' energy," Anders Rydaker, president of District Energy, told the House Committee on Regulated Industries. District Energy's plant supplies electricity, heating and air conditioning to 8 percent of the buildings in downtown St. Paul, and it does it by burning "biomass" — urban wood waste. Rydaker told the committee the plant is more than twice as efficient as plants that generate electricity only. **There is one drawback, though. You can't push steam heat very far through pipes. The answer to that, Rydaker said, is "smaller plants, scattered around in different towns, instead of having one big power plant."**

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_national.htm?SMDOCID=krdigital_2003_02_19_eng-krdigital_eng-krdigital_050400_884651787286315506a>

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Chemical Sector

6. *February 20, CNN* — **Two missing, 22 hurt in factory blast .** An explosion and fire at a Kentucky plastics factory Thursday morning injured 22 workers and left at least two others unaccounted for, a state emergency official said. **Scores of residents within a half-mile radius of the CTA Acoustics plant in southeastern Kentucky were being evacuated because of a potentially toxic plume of smoke, said Ray Bowman, a spokesman for the state Division of Emergency Management. The plant is between London and Corbin, Kentucky. The smoke could contain chemicals used in the manufacture of fiberglass, plastics and paint, Bowman said.** Local firefighters were battling the blaze. Bowman said the 22 people injured were taken to hospitals in Corbin and Lexington, mostly for burns, and emergency officials were concerned some of them may have had chemical exposure. The company produces acoustic and thermal insulation products for passenger cars, trucks, ventilation systems, appliances and other products.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2003/US/South/02/20/kentucky.explosion/>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *February 20, New York Times* — **Taking aim at an enemy's chips.** A new category of firepower under development is known as directed-energy weapons. These new systems, which have been under development in countries including Britain, China, Russia and the United States for at least a decade, are not designed to kill people. Conventional bombs, guns and artillery can take care of that. **Rather, most of the directed-energy systems are meant to kill electronics, to disrupt or destroy the digital devices that control the information lifeblood of modern societies and modern military forces. By contrast, traditional jamming equipment blocks communications gear from functioning but does not actually damage the device.** What is significant is determining the ability of potential foes to develop such devices themselves. For now, military experts generally appear to believe that directed-energy weapons are beyond the technical reach of terrorist groups. **"Considering that the United States has struggled with this and has taken a long time to get it to the verge of operational use, I think it would be tough for terrorists to get something they could use in this area,"** said David A. Fulghum, senior military editor for Aviation Week & Space Technology, a leading industry magazine. **"I think it would probably be easier for them to develop a nuclear weapon and try to employ the electromagnetic pulse produced by that than to try to develop high-power microwave weapons."** Nonetheless, as the nation's civilian society and especially its military apparatus come to depend ever more on electronic communication and information systems, the development of such systems by potentially unfriendly nations with significant industrial and technological abilities could become a military quandary. John Arquilla, a professor of defense analysis at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. said, "This is one of the major Achilles' heels of the increasing use of technology in the United States military." **"Most of what we have today is not hardened against this kind of capability and we are extremely vulnerable, so it makes sense for other militaries to be exploring these sorts of capabilities,"** Arquilla added. Referring to the Chinese army, he said, **"We have seen increasing experiments in this area by the People's Liberation Army and other militaries."**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/02/20/technology/circuits/20warr.html>

8. *February 19, General Accounting Office* — **Defense Infrastructure: changes in funding priorities and strategic planning needed to improve the condition of military facilities.** While the amount of money the active forces have spent on facility maintenance has increased recently, DoD and service officials said these amounts have not been sufficient to halt the deterioration of facilities. Too little funding to adequately maintain facilities is also aggravated by DoD's acknowledged retention of facilities in excess of needs. From fiscal year 1998 to 2001, obligations for facility maintenance rose by 26 percent with increases coming from higher annual budget requests, congressional designations that exceed those requests, supplemental appropriations, and the service's movement of funds to maintenance projects. Funding for military construction also increased during this period. **However, military reports and testimonies state that these amounts have been insufficient, and GAO's recent visits to installations document the deteriorated conditions of facilities.**

Source: Report: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-03-274> Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d03274high.pdf>

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Banking and Finance Sector

Nothing to report.

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Transportation Sector

9. *February 20, New York Times* — **After Korean subway fire, New York rechecks safety.**

Both subway cars were packed with people wary of a passenger who was acting strangely. Then, in an instant, the cars filled with fire. In the first incident, at a subway station in South Korea on Tuesday, the blaze roared through the entire train and jumped to another, burning through metal and emitting toxic smoke that killed at least 125 people, injured 146 and left the subway cars scorched hulks. Eight years earlier in New York, in another subway fire, a homemade explosive went off prematurely and the fire that followed was contained to one car. **Now, even during the heightened terrorism alert in New York, city officials acknowledge, it would be hard to prevent an attempt like the one in South Korea. Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly said police officials were reviewing the South Korea fire to determine whether to adjust the department's antiterrorism plans for the subways.** Still, transit officials, commuter groups and academics all agree that **fire safety procedures in New York, and the stringent standards to which most of New York's 6,300 subway cars have been built, greatly reduce the chance that a disaster like South Korea's could happen here.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/02/20/nyregion/20SUBW.html>

10. *February 20, Washington Post* — **TSA nearly ready to begin gun training for pilots.** In the first detailed plan for arming commercial airline pilots, **the federal government said Wednesday that it will soon begin training that would, as soon as next month, allow a limited number of pilots to carry holstered handguns while flying.** A task force of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recommended on Wednesday that **pilots who want to carry guns undergo extensive psychological and medical checks and attend five days of classroom and firearms training before being issued guns. The panel also suggested that pilots carry their guns in lockboxes through airports to aircraft, and that they not be authorized to use the weapons outside cockpits.** TSA chief James M. Loy is not likely to make major changes to the group's recommendations. The task force was led by TSA officials and included pilots, airline representatives and other federal security officials. Loy is required by Congress to decide on the program by Tuesday, February 25.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A32508-2003Feb 19.html>

11. *February 19, Associated Press* — **EU agrees to give passenger data to U.S.** The European Union reached a deal Wednesday for sharing passenger information on trans-Atlantic flights that satisfies both Washington's new anti-terrorism measures and EU data privacy rules, officials said. After two days of talks in Brussels, **U.S. Deputy Customs Commissioner Douglas Browning and officials of the European Commission agreed on an interim arrangement that would require European airlines to provide passenger data to U.S.**

authorities starting March 5. In return, the United States gave assurances about the "appropriate handling" of the records, which include not only names but also the passenger's itinerary, contact phone number and other details, such as credit card numbers. "That will allow the airlines to be in compliance with the U.S. law at the same time that they meet the EU data protection requirements," a spokesman at the U.S. Mission to the European Union said.

Source: http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story_p_on_re_eu/eu_us_security_1

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Postal and Shipping Sector

12. *February 20, Star-Ledger* — Port Authority earmarks \$500 million for anti-terror projects. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey will use \$500 million from its five-year capital spending plan to help pay for a variety of anti-terrorism projects at its regional port, airports, PATH facilities, bridges and tunnels, officials said Wednesday. The first \$100 million will be included in the Port Authority's 2003 capital budget, which was scheduled to be unveiled and approved on Thursday by the bistate agency's board of directors when it adopts this year's overall spending plan. Officials familiar with the plans said this year's outlay for anti-terrorism projects will be used for: **increased deployment of closed-circuit television systems to better monitor activity at agency facilities; additional perimeter security, such as improved fencing and sensors to detect and prevent trespassing, at various locations; and improved controls on access to agency facilities, such as an upgraded employee access card system that could include fingerprint or iris identity scans.**

Source: <http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-3/1045725113116600.xml>

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Agriculture Sector

13. *February 20, Visalia Times-Delta* — \$26M set aside to fight pest. Tulare, CA is hoping \$26 million available from the state can buy some ammunition in its fight to keep the glassy-winged sharpshooter from moving north. The federal Office of Management and Budget allocated \$26 million Wednesday to efforts to eradicate the pest in California. **The glassy-winged sharpshooter carries the bacteria that causes the incurable Pierce's disease in grapes and almond scorch in almonds. It is a large threat to the state's \$2.65 billion grape industry and its \$732 million almond industry.** Glassy-winged sharpshooters were first found in Tulare County in May 2000 in an urban area of Porterville. In July 2002, the pest was found widespread in small populations across the southeastern corner of Tulare County, said Gary Kunkel, Tulare County agricultural commissioner. The county has already spent most of its annual \$1.16 million allocation from the state fighting urban infestations and two small infestations in Dinuba and Woodlake.

Source: http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/news/stories/20030220/local_news/1022587.html

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Food Sector

Nothing to report.

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Water Sector

14. *February 20, Water Tech Online* — **Second contaminant found in drinking water. The search for contaminants in the Etchemin River, in Quebec, Canada, has been upgraded from an inquiry to an investigation after a second contaminant was found in a water sample.** The contamination means residents of Saint-Henri on Quebec City's south shore cannot drink their tap water. Engineers continue to flush the town's pipes; they hope to finish the job Thursday. **An oil product contaminated the town's water treatment center on the weekend, forcing residents to find other sources of drinking water.** The municipality sent out a warning asking people to work together to conserve as much water as possible until the problem can be resolved. The warning said water cannot be drunk, even if it is boiled.
Source: <http://www.watertechonline.com/news.asp?mode=4font>>

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Public Health Sector

15. *February 20, London Independent* — **"Bird flu" deaths in Hong Kong spark fears of global epidemic.** Ten days ago a boy in Hong Kong fell ill with flu. Normally such an event would not rate a passing mention, but this was no ordinary flu. **Yesterday the World Health Organisation (WHO) confirmed the strain as A (H5N1), also known as "bird flu". They fear it could become a global killer.** The boy's father and sister have already died. They were suffering similar symptoms, although their illness has not yet been confirmed. The boy's mother also fell ill but she has recovered. The boy himself has been treated in hospital since February 12, and is reported to be in a stable condition. **Experts around the world are now anxiously awaiting the outcome of further tests, which will determine what the virus is likely to do next. In the worst- case scenario, this could be the start of the world's next flu pandemic.** Scientists have predicted for more than a decade that a new strain of flu could cause a global pandemic at any time. The flu virus mutates constantly and each year's outbreak is caused by a slightly different virus from the previous year. But once in a generation, a major mutation produces a wholly new virus to which the population lacks immunity.
Source: <http://news.independent.co.uk/uk/health/story.jsp?story=379888>

16. *February 20, Health-News.co* — **Ebola confirmed in Congo. Laboratory tests have confirmed that the Ebola virus is behind an outbreak of hemorrhagic fever in the Congo Republic. The World Health Organization (WHO) said that, as of Tuesday, February 18, 80 cases have been reported in the country, including 64 deaths.** The majority of cases have been reported in the north-west region of Kelle. In a statement issued February 19, WHO said, "Earlier this month, gorilla deaths were reported north of Mbomo, the second focus of this

outbreak. In December, tests done on dead primates found in the area were positive for Ebola. "Since then, health officials have been attempting to obtain blood samples from humans, but victims or their survivors have denied requests citing cultural concerns. The current samples were collected from Kelle on February 13 and have all tested positive for the Ebola virus." **This is the second outbreak of the virulent virus to strike the region in the past 15 months and follows a major outbreak that spread into the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2001.**

Source: <http://www.health-news.co.uk/showstory.asp?id=107037>

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Government Sector

17. *February 19, Government Executive* — Homeland security appointments watch. President Bush nominated **Charles McQueary of North Carolina to be Homeland Security's science and technology undersecretary late last week. McQueary is the retired president of General Dynamics Advanced Technology Systems and a former board member of the National Defense Industrial Association.** He was with AT&T/Lucent Technologies from 1987 to 1997 as president and vice president, and with AT&T Bell Laboratories from 1971 to 1987 as director and department head. The president has not yet nominated someone to be the information analysis undersecretary, the other key position in the department for the high-tech sector.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/homelandappointments.htm>

18. *February 19, Federal Computer Week* — Homeland plots modernization path. During the next seven months, the Homeland Security Department will develop its enterprise architecture road map, bringing together the business needs and technical capabilities of the department, said Steve Cooper, chief information officer at Homeland Security. **Earlier this month, Cooper sent to Congress a set of milestones developed by his office and approved by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. The milestone tasks will help department officials chart a course to modernization as they define their current state of technology and services and their desired state.** The first task is to have a detailed business strategy for the department by March 1, as officials take a closer look at the missions outlined in the National Strategy for Homeland Security. **By June, Cooper wants officials to have documented the current state of business processes across the 22 organizations that make up the department. He said that although they likely will not be able to document all of the current state in that timeframe, 80 percent will be good enough to start making decisions and the rest can be filled in as time goes on.** This task includes making current-state documentation of the information technology in the 22 organizations. Such documentation encompasses looking at infrastructure, applications, a technology's position in its life cycle and its ability to meet business needs.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0217/web-cooper-02-19-03.asp>

19. *February 19, Government Executive* — Course offers anti-terrorism training for federal executives. The Army is offering training to help federal executives cope with the array of management challenges posed by terrorist attacks. **The one-day course gives managers a primer on chemical and biological weapons and outlines strategies for dealing with the legal and workforce management issues that can accompany terrorism. It also includes**

tabletop exercises that allow managers to practice responding to terrorist incidents. "Most of the material is aimed at the big issues executives are going to have to deal with—legal issues, response plans, and personnel planning," said Richard Vigus, deputy leader of the homeland defense business unit at the Army's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, which is located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Officials with the Office of Personnel Management's Western Management Development Center and the Federal Emergency Management Agency helped Edgewood develop the course. **The course is aimed at federal executives, not rank-and-file employees or local "first responders," the firefighters, police officers and emergency officials who are first on the scene of a terrorist attack.**

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0203/021903p1.htm>

20. *February 19, Associated Press* — **9/11 air-quality aid program troubled.** A \$100 million federal program to reimburse New Yorkers for air conditioners, filters, vacuums and other air-purifying tools after the World Trade Center collapse is rife with fraud and abuse, government officials say. **As many as 90 percent of the more than 219,000 applications for reimbursement were filed by people not suffering from the effects of contaminated air, according to estimates from federal officials.** They say fraud has taken several forms: Some people have manipulated the program to score a free air conditioner, while con artists have posed as federal employees and sold air-purifying items to residents. **About \$45.8 million has been paid out so far, and while many applications are legitimate, officials said millions have been paid to people scamming the system. The government is so concerned that it is sending a dozen teams of inspectors daily to applicants' homes to verify claims.** The government can turn cases over to prosecutors – though none have brought charges – or they can try to reclaim the money. The grants were set up by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to reimburse residents in all five boroughs for the purchase of air quality items, up to about \$1,500 per applicant.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A31035-2003Feb 19.html>

21. *February 16, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory* — **Livermore engineers use computer simulations to illustrate impacts of bomb blasts on infrastructure.** Using advanced computing capabilities, engineers from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will illustrate some of the issues that arise when mitigating the effects of bomb blast on the constructed environment. **At the American Association for the Advancement of Science 2003 Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, Livermore engineers highlighted advanced computer simulations performed at LLNL and the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center. Such simulations can be used to examine the performance of representative structures under blast loadings and explore design alternatives. These regimes of behavior are quite different from those associated with more typical design requirements such as an earthquake.** Some of these technologies have already found wide acceptance in non-defense uses, such as for crash safety simulation in the automotive industry. **Engineer David McCallen of Livermore's Laser Science Engineering division and colleagues have constructed computer simulations to show what could happen to buildings and dams if someone used conventional explosives.**

Source: <http://www.llnl.gov/llnl/06news/NewsReleases/2003/NR-03-02-1 0.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report.

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

22. *February 19, CERT/CC* — **CERT Advisory CA-2003-05 Multiple Vulnerabilities in Oracle Servers.** Multiple vulnerabilities exist in Oracle software. **Depending on the vulnerability being exploited, an attacker may be able to execute arbitrary code; read, modify, or delete information stored in underlying Oracle databases; or cause a denial of service.** Systems running the following software are affected: Oracle9i Database (Release 1 and 2); Oracle8i Database v 8.1.7; Oracle8 Database v 8.0.6; and Oracle9i Application Server (Release 9.0.2 and 9.0.3). **Solutions for specific vulnerabilities can be found in Oracle Security Alerts published here:** <http://otn.oracle.com/deploy/security/alerts.htm>. Systems administrators should review the Oracle Security Alerts and apply patches as appropriate. **Until a patch can be applied, the CERT/CC recommends that vulnerable sites disable unnecessary Oracle services, run Oracle services with the least privilege, and restrict network access to Oracle services.**

Source: <http://www.cert.org/advisories/CA-2003-05.html>

23. *February 19, Associated Press* — **Anti-war groups planning phone campaign. A coalition of groups opposed to a U.S.-led war in Iraq will have supporters call, fax and e-mail the White House and Congress during business hours on February 26 in an effort to overwhelm switchboards and catch the attention of political leaders.** Win Without War is a coalition of more than 30 organizations opposed to war with Iraq, including the National Council of Churches, National Organization for Women, NAACP and the Sierra Club. **Participants who register for the call-in campaign at the group's Web site will be directed to make their phone calls at specific times,** said former Rep. Tom Andrews, D-ME, national director of Win Without War. **The goal is to record one call per minute in every Senate office and at the White House.** "We're hoping there will be thousands and thousands of phone calls," he said.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A31971-2003Feb 19.html>

24. *February 18, Federal Computer Week* — **Flyzik to lead ITAA homeland group. Jim Flyzik has been named chairman of the Information Technology Association of America's (ITAA) Homeland Security Task Group.** Flyzik, a partner at the consulting firm Guerra, Kiviat & Flyzik, served as a senior IT adviser to Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge for about eight months in 2002. He retired from that position December 17 and made the transition from government to the private sector. **Flyzik's first priorities will be to examine the relationships among industry and different levels of government,** he said. "How can we begin to look at industry from the point of view of state, local and federal cooperation?" Flyzik will be aided by two vice-chairmen: Guy Copeland, vice president of information infrastructure advisory programs at Computer Sciences Corp.; and Chris Oglesby, client sales executive for EDS' federal government business. **The task group works on issues that pertain to companies with products for homeland security needs. During its two years of existence,**

the group has tackled risk-sharing and security clearance requirements for homeland security contractors. ITAA, based in Washington, D.C., is an association dedicated to fostering the growth of IT businesses through public policy initiatives and networking efforts. Source: <http://www.few.com/few/articles/2003/0217/web-flyzik-02-18-03.asp>

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels	
 AlertCon: 1 out of 4 https://gtoc.iss.net	 Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 www.securityfocus.com
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: W97M_SMAC.F Source: http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
Top 10 Target Ports	137 (netbios-ns), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 80 (www), 113 (ident), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 445 (microsoft-ds), 139 (netbios-ssn), 11044 (---), 4675 (eMule), 25 (smtp) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center

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General Sector

25. *February 20, Associated Press* — **Professor accused of terrorist sympathies arrested.** A college professor previously accused of having terrorist ties was arrested early Thursday by federal agents. **Television reports showed Sami Al Arian being led in handcuffs to FBI headquarters in Tampa after the arrest. His indictment is sealed until a court hearing scheduled for Thursday afternoon, a federal source said on condition on anonymity.** "It's all about politics," Al Arian told reporters as agents led him inside. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Tampa had said last year that Al Arian was under federal investigation, but refused to elaborate. **The tenured Palestinian computer engineering professor was placed on forced leave and banned from campus shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and his subsequent appearance on Fox News Channel.** Al Arian has said that he has never advocated violence against others and that his words were a statement against Israeli occupation. He also has consistently denied any connection to terrorists. The university says that hurt the school's fund-raising efforts and resulted in threats being made against the school. Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2003-02-20-professor-arrested_x.htm

26. *February 20, CNN* — **Eastern U.S. prepares for snow melt, rain. Cities buried by the blizzard are doing what they can to eliminate the snow before rising temperatures melt the snow and cause severe flooding. Days after a record-setting snowstorm slammed the**

eastern United States, emergency officials were preparing for the possibility of flooding from melting snow and heavy rain. In Washington, this week's snowfall is estimated to equal roughly 2 billion gallons of water when it melts, according to experts. Worse, another 2 billion gallons of rain is expected from heavy rain forecast for this weekend. Washington's top water and sewer engineer said those figures are ominous. **"Compare that to about 200 million gallons that we handle every day through the district sewer system [and it] means that we have some challenges ahead of us,"** said Washington's Water and Sewer Authority's Mike Marcotte." Many residents of the Potomac and Susquehanna river basins remember **damaging floods that followed a similar massive snowfall in 1996.**

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2003/WEATHER/02/20/snow.flood/index.html>

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NIPC Products & Contact Information

The National Infrastructure Protection Center (NIPC) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability, and law enforcement investigation and response entity. The NIPC provides timely warnings of international threats, comprehensive analysis and law enforcement investigation and response. The NIPC provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the NIPC web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following NIPC products:

[NIPC Warnings](#) – NIPC Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: The NIPC produces three levels of infrastructure warnings which are developed and distributed consistent with the FBI's National Threat Warning System. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[NIPC Publications](#) – NIPC Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

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