

**Department of Homeland Security
Information Analysis and Infrastructure
Protection**
**Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 21 May 2003**

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](#)

www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The New York Times reports train service between New Jersey coastal towns and Manhattan was shut down during the morning rush yesterday, disrupting the workday for thousands of commuters, after the boom of a crane on a barge sliced through seven high-voltage wires high above an open swing bridge on the Raritan River. (See item [5](#))
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Homeland Security Council, has made the decision to raise the national threat level from an Elevated to High risk of terrorist attack, or Level Orange, since the Intelligence Community believes that al Qaeda has entered an operational period worldwide, and this may include attacks in the United States. (See item [16](#))
- InternetWeek reports an incompatibility between Windows Server 2003's new backup features and Windows XP which results in problems restoring data from a backup tape created on Windows Server 2003 to Windows XP. (See item [24](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

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

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Web Information](#)

Energy Sector

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

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

1. *May 20, Platts Global Energy News* — **Iraq to miss June 11 OPEC meeting for more pressing issues. Iraq's U.S.-appointed oil management, with more pressing matters on its plate, is unlikely to send de facto Oil Minister Thamer Ghadban or another representative to the June 11 OPEC meeting in Doha, Qatar, a senior oil official told Platts Tuesday. "At the moment, Ghadban has a lot on his plate," said the official. Ghadban's possible absence at**

the OPEC meeting follows comments by Phillip Carroll, the former Shell executive appointed by the US to advise the Oil Ministry, in a May 16 Washington Post interview **that Iraq might be best served by disregarding OPEC quotas and exporting as much oil as it can.** Iraq is a founding member of OPEC but has not been party to its quota system since UN sanctions were imposed in 1990 as punishment for its invasion of Kuwait.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/home1.html>

2. *May 19, Des Moines Business Record* — **Iowa cities increasingly relying on renewable energy technology.** When local officials, state dignitaries and others turn spades of dirt Tuesday to observe Earth Day in Lenox, they will be breaking ground for **a new wind turbine, an environmentally-friendly power source that will supply 10 percent of the electricity needs of the Taylor County town of 1,400 in extreme Southern Iowa.** Dave Ferris, the Lenox Municipal Utilities superintendent, predicts Tuesday will mark the beginning of increasing reliance on "green" power sources. **There already are extensive wind farm installations across the northern half of Iowa, but Lenox will become the first community in the southern part of the state to install a wind turbine. Lenox is located in the second-windiest area of the state along a ridge between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers,** and "it's windy here all the time," Ferris said. Closely watching the progress in Lenox are officials with Stuart Municipal Utilities, who are working with the West Central Interstate 80 Development Corp. to secure \$400,000 in CDBG funds to install a wind turbine that is expected to supply 13 percent of the electricity needs of Stuart, a community of 1,700. **Besides wind, other options include biodiesel, which would provide more uses for soybeans, and solar photovoltaic technology, which produces electricity from sunlight.**

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3855282

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

3. *May 19, Semiconductor Business News* — **Pentagon warned over U.S. loss of electronics, says report.** A U.S. Defense Department technology advisory group has warned that U.S. military capability is being put in doubt by loss of the U.S. electronics industry, particularly the loss of semiconductor manufacturing to southeast Asia, according to a report in Manufacturing & Technology News. The subscription-only newsletter claims to have obtained an unpublished briefing document from the Department of Defense Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED). **AGED says the DoD is now in the position of having to get the most advance technologies from outside the U.S. and that the situation "assigns those nations with political and military leverage over the U.S.,"** the newsletter quoted AGED as saying. **The AGED briefing calls for "corrective actions" but its conclusions are not endorsed by the Directors of Defense Research Engineering (DDRE), a committee it is intended to advise, according to the report.**

Source: <http://www.siliconstrategies.com/story/OEG20030519S0039>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

4. *May 13, Wall Street & Technology* — **Mapping out BCP guidelines.** The industry was up in arms when the first draft of the white paper entitled "Interagency Paper on Sound Practices to Strengthen the Resilience of the U.S. Financial System," was released. The majority of firms expressly disagreed when the agencies asked whether a distance specification should be included, suggesting 200–300 miles between a primary and backup site. **Industry experts agree that BCP planning and, particularly, distance needs aren't a one-size-fits-all proposition. For example, a firm with a global footprint may have built-in backup by the nature of its business and may not need to be told how far its backup site should be from its primary site.** Timing was crucial as well. "What you have to understand is these papers didn't come out until over a year after 9/11. A number of firms had moved very quickly to initiate funding of new locations of centers. Now, the agencies come out and say, you have to be X number of miles away from your primary site? Suddenly firms are caught in the middle. They've already spent a lot of money," notes one source.

Source: <http://www.wallstreetandtech.com/story/mag/WST20030513S0004>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

5. *May 20, New York Times* — **New Jersey coastal trains halted as crane slices wires.** Train service between New Jersey coastal towns and Manhattan was shut down during the morning rush yesterday, disrupting the workday for thousands of commuters, after the boom of a crane on a barge sliced through seven high-voltage wires high above an open swing bridge on the Raritan River. **The severed electrical lines tumbled in a shower of sparks about 7 a.m., and power was lost for both track signals and the catenary rigging on trains of the North Jersey Coast Line between Bay Head and Pennsylvania Station in New York.** Thousands of angry, confused and frustrated commuters, some of them stranded on station platforms, scrambled throughout the morning to find other ways to get to work and arrived hours late, if at all. By 7:15 p.m., all the wires were repaired, and all train service was restored by 8 p.m. Normal service was scheduled for the morning rush today. **In late afternoon, some of the severed lines were repaired, and New Jersey Transit, which operates the crippled line, restored limited southbound service over the bridge just before the evening rush.** O During the morning, the Coast Guard started investigating the mishap and gave tests for alcohol and drug use to the crew of a tugboat that had been pushing the crane-barge up the Raritan River near Perth Amboy when the wires were cut.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/20/nyregion/20COMM.html>

6. *May 20, Associated Press* — **Boston airport unveils high-security hall. Logan International Airport unveiled a new, high-security ticketing hall Monday with blast-resistant windows, extra space for baggage screening and separate rooms for procedures such as**

taking off shoes. The ticketing hall is part of a project to expand the airport's international terminal. It is the **first major airport facility incorporating post-September 11 federal security measures to open in the United States.** The two planes that destroyed the World Trade Center on September 11 were hijacked from Logan. The expansion project, which will nearly double the size of the existing 450,000-square-foot international terminal when the work is completed in 2005, was well under way when the terrorist attacks occurred. The ticketing hall, which began to be phased in for passenger use Monday, is the length of two football fields and combines luxury with security. Hundreds of beech acoustic panels cover the ceiling, while the floor is made of black terrazzo – a glamorous departure from Logan's usually drab decor. **The \$322 million terminal will ultimately host about 10,000 passengers a day. It is the centerpiece of Logan's \$4.4 billion facelift.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A11387-2003May 19.html>

7. *May 20, Democrat & Chronicle* — **Truck inspections focusing on drivers -- shift in emphasis raises worries about safety. In response to homeland security concerns, New York state has radically increased checks on truck drivers and cargoes -- but greatly curtailed detailed mechanical inspections of trucks themselves.** Mechanical inspections fell from about 39,000 a year to about 18,000 in the fiscal year that began just after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. During that same period, inspections of drivers and cargoes rose more than 900 percent -- from about 11,000 to 104,000 -- as inspectors began looking for terrorists using trucks with explosives or hazardous cargo as rolling bombs. **“To focus on borders and terrorists, and at the same time to soft-pedal the kind of comprehensive inspections we need of both drivers and equipment, is in the long run detrimental to highway safety,”** said Gerald Donaldson, senior research director at Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, a lobbying group in Washington, D.C. “There are just too many trucks out there with dangerously loaded cargoes, trucks out there with bad shocks, brakes, frames and tires, to let that go,” Donaldson said.

Source: http://www.democratandchronicle.com/news/0520story1_news.sht ml

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

8. *May 20, Federal Computer Week* — **USPS awards deal for biohazard detection. The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has awarded a contract to develop a biohazard detection system to detect potential biological threats at mail facilities. The \$175 million contract extends from January to October 2004 and follows a development and test phase that started in May 2002. By October 2004, mail-sorting facilities nationwide will be equipped with these biohazard detection centers.** The biohazard detection systems use polymerase chain reaction technology to analyze air samples taken from mail sorting equipment. The systems can detect trace levels of DNA from biological agents, such as anthrax, while letters and packages are processed.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0519/web-postal-05-20-03.asp>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture Sector

9. *May 20, Associated Press* — **U.S. bans Canada beef imports due to mad cow case. The U.S. government banned shipments Tuesday of meat and livestock from Canada to protect the nation's food supply and cattle industry after the discovery of a single Canadian cow with mad cow disease.** The ban includes any beef–derived product or animal feed from Canada, the Food and Drug Administration said. Mad cow disease has never been found in U.S. cattle, despite intensive testing for it. The U.S. government routinely seals the border against imports of meat and cattle from countries where mad cow disease is found. Canada is taking proper precautions for what "appears to be an isolated case" of mad cow disease, said U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman. **"Information suggests that risk to human health and the possibility of transmission to animals in the United States is very low,"** she said.

Source: <http://www.macon.com/mld/macon/news/5904314.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Food Sector

10. *May 20, Business Weekly* — **Food poison bacteria under attack. Scientists at the UK's Institute of Food Research have discovered how the food poisoning bacteria Campylobacter jejuni uses disguise and plasticity to survive.** The research was carried out using DNA microarray technology to investigate strains isolated from chickens, farm puddles food and humans. It will help identify the strains most dangerous to humans and pioneer new ways to outwit the bug. **The Campylobacter genome contains highly variable "plastic" regions, which gives some strains the ability to disguise themselves and avoid the host immune system. Genes in these plastic regions may also enable strains to adapt to huge stresses they experience as they move between environments and hosts.** The research team has also found extra DNA to the genome called "plasmids" that help to explain the spread of antibiotic resistance. The extra genes carried on the plasmids confer resistance to antibiotics and can be transferred from one Campylobacter strain to another.

Source: http://www.businessweekly.co.uk/news/view_article.asp?article_id=7635

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

11. *May 20, Associated Press* — **Denver Water considering rebates to encourage conservation. Denver Water, in Colorado, is considering a plan to offer up to \$950 in rebates to homeowners who install drought–tolerant lawns. The rebates would reward residents who use water–saving plants, grasses, mulches, and compost and would be financed by \$3.6 million in drought–related water tap surcharges.** The plan could be formally approved as early as May 28 and implemented by midsummer, said Marie Bassett, Denver Water's acting director of public affairs. Denver Water's 1.2 million customers already can collect \$100 for buying water–saving toilets and \$125 for clothes washers. More than 7,500 of these rebates have been issued, Bassett said. Homeowners with average lots of 8,500 square feet could collect up to \$950 to redo their yards under the latest proposal, Bassett said. Carl Wilson, a

Colorado State University Extension horticulturist, said the rebates would create more interest in Xeriscapes, which use drought-tolerant native plants and grasses.

Source: <http://www.9news.com/storyfull-newsroom.asp?id=14556>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health Sector

12. *May 20, Reuters* — **Taiwan sees record rises in SARS cases and deaths.** Taiwan reported record daily rises in the numbers of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) infections and deaths Tuesday as the region counted the economic cost of the epidemic. The Department of Health said the number of probable SARS cases rose by 39 to 383 and a dozen more sufferers had died, bringing the death toll to 52. The figures contrast with a steady decline in cases in China and Hong Kong, the areas worst hit by the flu-like virus that has killed a total of about 650 people around the world. **The World Health Organization (WHO) says Taiwan has the world's fastest-growing outbreak. In a statement on its Web site, the WHO said lapses in infection control, particularly in emergency rooms, could be a reason for the rapid spread in Taiwan. More than 90 percent of Taiwan's cases are the result of hospital infections, following outbreaks in at least six major hospitals in the past four weeks.**

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A14694-2003May_20.html

13. *May 20, Washington Post* — **Radiation sickness drug developed. U.S. military officials are expressing enthusiasm about an experimental drug that they say could protect the health of troops, police officers, and emergency medical personnel who respond to terrorist attacks involving nuclear weapons or radiation-spewing "dirty bombs." The drug appears to offer significant protection from radiation sickness, which would kill many more people in nuclear attacks than the initial blast, military officials and experts said.** "We want it on the fast track," said Navy Adm. James A. Zimble, a top military health official who is president of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda. "We've been very encouraged by the very positive results" of tests on animals, he added. Experts cautioned that more research needs to be done to prove the drug's effectiveness and safety when administered to humans. The vast majority of new drugs that appear promising in animal studies never gain approval for humans. But radiation specialists said tests on this drug with mice, dogs, and monkeys suggest that it will work in people and will not prove toxic.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A7257-2003May1_8.html

14. *May 19, BBC News* — **Warning over new diseases. The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned that new diseases could spread in the wake of the deadly Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) virus.** Officials have urged governments to work more closely together to try to deal with the threat. Dr David Heymann, head of its communicable diseases unit, suggested fresh outbreaks of deadly viruses were almost inevitable. "There will be more outbreaks like SARS, there's bound to be more," he told journalists. He said the biggest threat would be an outbreak of a deadly strain of influenza. Dr Guenael Rodier, director of communicable disease surveillance, said the death toll could have been substantially higher if the virus had been influenza. WHO director general Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland highlighted the importance of countries sharing information on diseases. China has come under fire for failing to disclose the true extent of its SARS outbreak when it first emerged. **"We need to get access**

to information about diseases outbreaks as soon as they occur," Dr Brundtland said. "We need to share that information globally even faster than modern travel. We need to share successful strategies adopted by countries to contain the disease and learn from what does not work. "We need to ascertain whether control measures are being properly taken by affected countries."

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/3040709.stm>

15. *May 19, Government Executive Magazine* — **Bioterrorism experts call for unified anthrax response plan. The Homeland Security Department should take the lead in developing national environmental testing guidelines in case of another anthrax attack, several biohazard experts said Monday.** The department must also work with the Postal Service and other relevant agencies to determine if 280 mail processing facilities should be retested for possible anthrax contamination. Currently, the nation is plagued by a set of inconsistent protocols used to test Postal Service facilities for anthrax contamination. This has led to confusing and unreliable data being shared among different federal and state agencies, according to Robert Hamilton, a professor at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. **"We need a single leading federal agency to implement a unified, optimized, and verifiable approach to environmental testing for the detection indoors of dispersed agents of bioterrorism,"** Hamilton told the House Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations. **Officials from the General Accounting Office and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases endorsed the idea.**

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0503/051903w1.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Sector

16. *May 20, U.S. Department of Homeland Security* — **Statement by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge on raising the threat level to high (orange).** The Department of Homeland Security in consultation with the Homeland Security Council, has made the decision to raise the national threat level from an Elevated to High risk of terrorist attack or Level Orange. **The U.S. Intelligence Community believes that al Qaeda has entered an operational period worldwide, and this may include attacks in the United States.** In the wake of terrorist bombings in Saudi Arabia and Morocco, al Qaeda and those sympathetic to their cause, are still a principal threat, but threats may also emanate from other anti-U.S. terrorist groups, regional extremist organizations, and ad hoc groups or disgruntled individuals not connected to existing terrorist organizations or state sponsors of terrorism. **While there is not credible, specific information with respect to targets or method of attack, the use of tactics similar to those seen in recent terrorist attacks overseas include small arm equipped assault teams, large vehicle borne explosive devices, and suicide bombers. These attacks underscore terrorists' desires to attack soft targets.** Weapons of mass destruction, including those containing chemical, biological or radiological agents or materials, cannot be discounted.

Source: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press_release/press_re lease_0158.xml

17.

May 20, U.S. Embassy, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia — **Warden message – 20 May 2003.** The Embassy continues to receive credible information that further terrorist attacks are being planned against unspecified targets in Saudi Arabia. **In response to information that some strikes may be imminent, the Embassy and Consulates General in Jeddah and Dhahran will be closed on May 21, 2003.** Although no decision has yet been made as to when the Embassy and Consulates may reopen, it will not be prior to Sunday, May 25 as Mission offices are normally closed on Thursdays and Fridays and will be closed Saturday for Memorial Day. Source: <http://usembassy.state.gov/riyadh/wwwusc30.doc>

18. *May 20, Associated Press* — **Arrests for immigrant smuggling up.** Along the U.S. border with Mexico, law enforcement agents have lately seen an interesting trend. Arrests of human smugglers are up dramatically, although the numbers of would-be migrants detained has decreased. Even as arrests of smugglers have risen, the numbers of overall illegal immigrants detained have declined. So far for the 19-county McAllen Sector, stretching from the remote Starr County brushland to the Gulf of Mexico and north past Victoria, there have been 13 percent fewer migrants arrested compared with last year: 47,760 versus 55,023. **Experts say those numbers indicate that migrants are turning to professionals. The smugglers, in turn, have gotten better organized, in some cases forming cartels with their own fleets of vehicles and networks of way stations.** Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A13585-2003May_20.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Emergency Services Sector

19. *May 20, New York Times* — **Police tap counterterrorism expert.** A retired Army lieutenant colonel who was the State Department's top counterterrorism official and recently helped run United Nations peacekeeping efforts will be named the New York Police Department's senior counterterrorism official today, several people familiar with the appointment said on Monday. **The former colonel, Michael A. Sheehan, whose military career ranged from service as a counterinsurgency adviser in El Salvador and a Special Forces commander in Panama to two stints in the White House on the National Security Council staff, will replace another retired military officer in the Police Department post.** Frank Libutti, a retired lieutenant general in the Marines who has been the deputy commissioner for counterterrorism since February 2001, has been named an undersecretary in the Department of Homeland Security. Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly were expected to announce Sheehan's appointment at City Hall on Tuesday, said one person who has discussed the job with Sheehan. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/20/nyregion/20APPO.html>

20. *May 20, Federal Computer Week* — **FEMA training project managers.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency is starting to address the lack of project management skills within both its own organization and the larger incident response group within the Homeland Security Department, said Rose Parkes, FEMA's chief information officer. **Project management skills are in short supply across government, and many agencies are finding different ways to address the problem. FEMA has identified some trained project managers, and officials are beginning to put candidates through formal training,** Parkes

said. That step involves a huge investment on the part of FEMA, but it is necessary for the infrastructure of the agency and the department as a whole as the DHS Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate starts to reorganize by function — such as preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery — instead of along the lines of existing organizations, she said.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0519/web-train-05-20-03.asp>

21. *May 18, Los Angeles Times* — **Alert system still chugging, but few listen.** The Emergency Alert System, an icon of national security since the Korean War, is hobbled by outdated technology and in danger of being tuned out by a public weary of an expanding array of warnings and advisories, government officials and outside experts say. **With Americans spending more time surfing the Internet and talking on cell phones, experts caution that fewer hear the "this is only a test" warning message aired monthly by television, radio and cable stations. Meanwhile, a growing number of other government warnings – from color-coded terrorism alerts to weather advisories and missing-children reports – compete for public attention.** What's more, emerging media such as satellite radio and digital radio and TV aren't required to participate in the national alert network, established by President Truman. The system was designed to enable the government to address citizens over broadcast stations during a national emergency.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-alert18may18.1.7270223.story>

22. *May 16, U.S. Department of Justice* — **FY 2003 community policing discretionary grants.** The U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) announces the availability of Homeland Security Overtime Program (HSOP) grants to pay up to 75 percent of anticipated overtime costs and appropriate fringe benefits for non-supervisory sworn personnel (above and beyond what is currently budgeted, or will be budgeted for overtime during the grant period). Funds may be used for a period of one year, and will cover up to 75 percent of a department's anticipated overtime costs up to the maximum allowable based on the following funding criteria. Law Enforcement agencies can apply for funding based on the size of the population they serve or the size of their current budgeted sworn strength at the time of application.

Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocke.t.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-12213.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information and Telecommunications Sector

23. *May 20, New York Times* — **Hackers hijack computers remotely in new surge of spam.** As spam has proliferated many mass e-mailers have become more clever in avoiding the blockades by aggressively bouncing messages off the computers of unaware third parties. **In the last two years, more than 200,000 computers worldwide have been hijacked without the owners' knowledge and are currently being used to forward spam,** according to AOL and other Internet service providers. Last Thursday, 17 law enforcement agencies and the Federal Trade Commission issued a public warning about some of the ways spammers now commandeer computers to evade detection. Mostly, **the spammers are exploiting security**

holes in existing software, but increasingly they are covertly installing e-mail forwarding software, much like a computer virus. In the last six months, an increasingly common trick has been for spammers to attach rogue e-mail-forwarding software to other e-mail messages or hide it in files that are meant to emulate songs on music sharing sites like KaZaA.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/20/technology/20SPAM.html>

24. *May 20, InternetWeek* — **Windows Server 2003 backup problem discovered. A solution provider has discovered an incompatibility between Windows Server 2003's new backup features and Windows XP which results in problems restoring data from a backup tape created on Windows Server 2003 to Windows XP and, potentially, Windows 2000 Pro and Windows 2000 server.** North Carolina-based Terabyte Computers has developed a workaround for the problem, but is recommending that its customers hold off on deploying Windows Server 2003 until the problem is resolved. **Microsoft has confirmed the problem and is working to come up with a solution.**

Source: <http://www.internetwk.com/security02/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=10000338>

25. *May 16, Computerworld* — **Netanyahu and Woolsey speak out on terror and technology.** This week former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former CIA director R. James Woolsey warned of the dangers of inaction and lack of preparedness when it comes to cyberterrorism and homeland security. **"The power of the few to terrorize the many has grown by leaps and bounds...because of technology,"** Netanyahu said during an interview broadcast Tuesday as part of the Terror and Technology Online conference, sponsored by IDPartners LLC. He was referring to the ability of international terrorist organizations to physically destroy key cyber-based infrastructures or attack those infrastructures using the Internet. **When asked what can be done to meet the threat, Netanyahu said, "through security systems and security norms that are enforced by governments."** Woolsey said **the networks and systems that power the U.S. economy "were put together by businesspeople...with an eye toward openness and ease of access, and were not put together with a single thought in most cases...to terrorism."**

Source: <http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0,10801,81301,00.html?SKC=security-81301>

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels	
 AlertCon: 1 out of 4 https://gtoc.iss.net	 Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: WORM_LOVGATE.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	80 (www), 137 (netbios-ns), 445 (microsoft-ds), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 113 (ident), 139 (netbios-ssn), 17300 (Kuang2TheVirus), 25 (smtp), 53 (domain), 0 (----) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center

[[Return to top](#)]

General Sector

26. *May 20, New York Times* — **East Africa heightening watch for signs of terror plots.** A sense of alert has been growing in this East African nation following reports of the sighting of a terrorism suspect accused of involvement in attacks on American and Israeli targets in the region that took hundreds of lives. **In recent days, British and Israeli airlines have suspended flights into Kenya while the United States Embassy – as target of a coordinated strike in 1998 on American missions here and in neighboring Tanzania that killed 224 people – has taken the unusual step of telling its 200 staff members that they may leave the country.** An embassy spokesman said none had yet left, though some might by the end of the week. Additionally, the State Department in Washington has told Americans – some 5,000 of whom are registered with the embassy here as living in Kenya – that there is a "credible threat" of a terror attack.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/20/international/africa/20CND-KENY.html>

27. *May 20, New York Times* — **U.S. forecasts active season for hurricanes.** Six to nine hurricanes are likely to churn the Atlantic or the Caribbean this year, making 2003 the stormiest year since 1999, federal officials said on Monday. They warned coastal communities not to be lulled by the relative calm of recent seasons. **Cool Pacific waters and a warm Atlantic "are more conducive to hurricanes over the Atlantic and stronger ones, as well," said Dr. Richard J. Pasch, a meteorologist at the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Dr. Pasch added that those conditions would probably be most strongly felt in the deep tropics, where the most potent hurricanes form.** The Atlantic had four hurricanes last year. One, Lili, struck the United States. No hurricanes hit the mainland in 2001 or 2000.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/20/national/20HURR.html>

28. *May 19, U.S. Department of Justice* — **Mukhtar Al-Bakri pleads guilty to providing material support to al Qaeda.** The Justice Department announced on Monday that Mukhtar al-Bakri, the last of the six defendants indicted as part of the Buffalo cell case, has pleaded guilty to a charge of providing material support to the al Qaeda terrorist organization. **Al-Bakri, of Lackawanna, NY, entered the plea to a charge of providing material support or resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization at federal court in Buffalo, NY, on Monday afternoon before Judge William M. Skretny. All six defendants charged in an October 2002 federal indictment have now pleaded guilty and agreed to cooperate with ongoing investigations.** The two-count indictment last year charged the defendants with providing material support or resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization, based on their attendance at an al Qaeda-affiliated training camp.

Source: http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2003/May/03_crm_307.htm

29. *May 19, Reuters* — **One dead after explosion rocks Ankara cafe.** An explosion rocked a cafe in the center of Turkey's capital Ankara early on Tuesday, killing one person and injuring another, the state-run Anatolian news agency reported. **The cause of the explosion, which occurred at around 2:15 a.m. EDT, was not immediately clear, security officials were quoted as saying. Television pictures showed debris and glass strewn across a road outside the charred building that housed the cafe, located in the busy commercial district of Kizilay.** "Our colleagues are carrying out the necessary investigations," the agency quoted Ankara security chief Ercument Yilmaz as saying.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A13742-2003May 20.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP 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 IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. 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.

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

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