

**Department of Homeland Security
Information Analysis and Infrastructure
Protection**
**Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 30 May 2003**

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- Reuters reports a man, apparently intent on crashing a Qantas flight in Australia, slashed two flight attendants with sharp wooden implements before he was overpowered by passengers and crew who wrestled him to the floor to stop him from reaching the cockpit of the 118-seat plane. (See item [8](#))
- The Chicago Tribune reports experts are beginning to worry about a potential terrorist threat to America's wastewater systems which include some 800,000 miles of tunnels, leading to every major building in every city in the country. (See item [15](#))
- The Santa Cruz Sentinel reports computer hackers threatened confidential student records, exposing the the vulnerability of online record systems. (See item [19](#))

DHS/IAIP 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: Elevated

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

1. *May 28, Chicago Tribune* — **Illinois utilities balk at renewable-fuel goals.** Environmental groups and the state's largest utilities are deadlocked over proposed legislation that would require the companies to purchase electricity generated from wind power and other renewable fuel sources. **Environmental groups want utilities to buy 5 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2010 and 15 percent by 2020. But utilities are unwilling to go beyond setting an interim goal of 2 percent by 2007, which could be met simply through marketing or educational programs.** "That's where we've been stuck," said Hans Detweiler, who has been negotiating for the past three months on behalf of the Chicago-based

Environmental Law & Policy Center. **Renewable fuels include solar and methane, but wind power has the greatest potential for generating significant quantities of electricity.** Three Midwestern states have enacted standards: Iowa requires 2 percent by 2011; Wisconsin 2.2 percent by 2011; and Minnesota 4.8 percent by 2012. California and Nevada require 10 percent by 2010. Environmentalists contend there is more at stake than conservation and energy security. **According to the University of Illinois, 8,580 new jobs and \$950 million in economic growth would be generated by 2010 if the standards were put in place.**
Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3876033

2. *May 28, Reuters* — **California sets power alert due to low energy supplies. California's power grid operator called a Stage 1 power alert on Wednesday, warning of dangerously low power supplies amid high air conditioning demand during the first heat wave of the year.** The California Independent System Operator (ISO) said it was "implementing Stage 1 of the Electrical Emergency Plan" through 8 p.m. PDT (11 p.m. EDT) and requesting extra energy bids from generators to get through the peak evening hours. **A Stage 1 is the lowest of the ISO's three-level emergency plan, indicating power reserves have fallen to within 7 percent of actual demand on the electric system.** The ISO last declared a Stage 1 alert on July 10, 2002.

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3876913

3. *May 28, Energy Central* — **NRC plans June 5 meeting on shut South Texas nuke.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said on Wednesday it would meet on June 5 to discuss findings and repair plans for the downed South Texas 1 nuclear power plant, near Bay City. **The meeting, at the agency's Rockville, MD, headquarters, will include a discussion of the plant's status, what likely caused the reactor vessel to leak, and repair plans for the unit, which has been down since late March,** the group said in a statement. The 1,250-megawatt South Texas 1 provides enough power to run about a million homes. **Last week, plant officials confirmed they found small cracks in the reactor vessel, but stuck with early estimates it would return to service in late summer.** Ultrasonic testing found cracks on two instrumentation tubes that contain devices that monitor the plant's operation. Boric acid deposits on the bottom of the reactor vessel were found during a routine refueling outage that began in late March, prompting further testing. Information about the cracks was released in a preliminary report on the leak, but **no information about how the cracks developed would be available until the middle of June,** a plant manager said.

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3876301

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Chemical Sector

4. *May 22, Umatilla Chemical Depot News* — **Umatilla County to retain hold of radio system.** Umatilla County will not give up its control of a \$9.1 million project to provide a new tactical communications system for emergency agencies, despite a warning in April that it would. **The system would provide reliable communications for emergency workers in Umatilla and Morrow counties in the event of a leak at the Umatilla Chemical Depot.** Umatilla County Commissioner Dennis Doherty agreed the county would continue to implement the 450-megahertz radio system after the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Plan's

governing board on Wednesday agreed to endorse and support plans for a Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD) project. The board also voted to shift \$200,000 from the radio system budget to the CAD budget. **The two systems would work together in the event of an emergency but could also operate separately.**

Source: <http://www.umatilladepotnews.com/2003/0522.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *May 29, U.S. Department of Defense* — **National Guard transformation of command structure seen as important chapter.** National Guard transformation took a big step forward when leaders from the 54 states and U.S. territories supported the historic initiative for changing their organization's command structure earlier this month. **The National Guard's adjutants general reached consensus with the ideas put forward by Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, the Guard Bureau's new chief, to consolidate separate state headquarters for members of the Army and Air Guard into joint, or combined, headquarters.** Blum has ordered the National Guard Bureau, which currently consists of a joint staff and separate directorates for the Army and Air Guard, to become a joint headquarters by July 1. He has asked the states to establish joint headquarters, and do away with state area commands for Army Guard forces, by Oct. 1.

Source: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/May2003/n05282003_200305281.html

6. *May 28, U.S. Department of Defense* — **National Guard and Reserve mobilized as of May 28, 2003.** This week the Marine Corps announces an increase of reservists on active duty in support of the partial mobilization. The Army, Navy and Air Force each announce a decrease. The net collective result is 711 fewer reservists than last week. At any given time, services may mobilize some units and individuals while demobilizing others, making it possible for these figures to either increase or decrease. **Total number currently on active duty in support of the partial mobilization for the Army National Guard and Army Reserve is 146,218; Naval Reserve 11,688; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 36,173; Marine Corps Reserve, 21,276; and the Coast Guard Reserve, 4,337. This brings the total Reserve and National Guard on active duty to 219,692 including both units and individual augmentees.**

Source: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/May2003/b05282003_bt374-03.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *May 29, U.S. Department of the Treasury* — **Treasury designates al Aqsa International Foundation as financier of terror charity linked to funding of the Hamas terrorist organization.** The U.S. Treasury Department has designated the Al Aqsa Foundation as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) entity under Executive Order 13224. As a result of this designation by Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), all assets of the al Aqsa Foundation are blocked and transactions with the organization are prohibited. **Al Aqsa is a critical part of Hamas' terrorist support infrastructure. Through its headquarters in**

Germany and branch offices in the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Sweden, Pakistan, South Africa, Yemen and elsewhere, al Aqsa funnels money collected for charitable purposes to Hamas terrorists. Other nations, including the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, Britain, Luxembourg and Switzerland, have also taken action against the al Aqsa Foundation. Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press/releases/js439.htm>

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Transportation Sector

8. *May 29, Reuters* — **Man tries to crash Qantas plane, stabs crew.** A man apparently intent on crashing a Qantas flight in Australia slashed two flight attendants on his way to the cockpit before he was overpowered, the country's transport minister said Thursday. **The 40-year-old man attacked the crew with sharp wooden implements, possibly chopsticks, soon after the Boeing 717 with 47 passengers and six crew left the southern city of Melbourne for the island state of Tasmania. Passengers and crew wrestled the man to the floor before he could reach the cockpit of the 118-seat plane.** Transport Minister and Deputy Prime Minister John Anderson said it did not appear to be an act of terrorism. "If you call an attempt to crash an aircraft, you might call that a hijacking," he told reporters in Canberra. Police said the man had been taken into custody. Qantas Chief Executive Geoff Dixon said a 38-year-old male flight attendant received a gash to the back of his head and a 25-year-old female attendant suffered facial cuts. **They were attacked by a man wielding two sharp wooden sticks about 6 inches long. "We believe he was trying to take over the plane,"** Australian Federal Police Agent Stephen Cato told reporters in Melbourne.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A52384-2003May 29.html>

9. *May 28, U.S. Department of State* — **Western hemisphere transportation ministers pledge to combat terrorism.** Western Hemisphere transportation ministers have pledged to work together to combat all forms of terrorism, adding that they condemn, "in the strongest terms, the misuse of any part of a country's transport system or its infrastructure for acts of terrorism." **In a joint statement released following their May 7-9 meeting in Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo, Mexico, the ministers said they resolved "to take all necessary measures within our respective authorities to prevent a reoccurrence" of terrorist attacks similar to the September 11, 2001, attacks against the United States.** The ministers added that in "recognizing the challenges" facing the region's transportation systems, and in recognizing also the importance of awareness and preparedness, "we reiterate our commitment to work together to improve transportation safety and security" through the Western Hemisphere Transportation Initiative (WHTI). In making that commitment, the ministers said they will continue to "pay particular attention to the needs of small, island, and developing states."

Source: http://usinfo.state.gov/cgi-bin/washfile/display.pl?p=/products/washfile/latest=/products/washfile/news_item.shtml

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

10. *May 29, just-food.com* — **Mexico close to lifting poultry ban on four U.S. states. Mexico is close to lifting a ban on imports of poultry products from four out of eight U.S. states on which the ban was imposed following an outbreak of bird flu. Javier Trujillo, the head of the Mexican government's animal health commission, told Reuters that Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia have complied with Mexico's requests for proof that the states are free of avian influenza.** "They have submitted a dossier showing they have returned to a situation where they are free of avian influenza, which they handed over to us in March and which we studied during April," Trujillo said. He added that the four states still need to prove they can control movement of poultry products from other states into their own.

Source: http://www.just-food.com/news_detail.asp?art=54235

11. *May 29, El Paso Times* — **Poultry disease no longer a threat. A deadly poultry disease that led to the destruction of more than 2,000 birds and 1,000 Mexican Easter cascarones is no longer a danger in El Paso, TX, animal health officials announced Wednesday. A quarantine was imposed April 10 in El Paso and surrounding counties to prevent the movement of birds after a case of Exotic Newcastle disease was confirmed in a flock of roosters in Socorro.** "We feel we have adequate evidence that the disease is no longer a threat to the area," said Max Coats Jr., deputy executive director and state veterinarian with the Texas Animal Health Commission. **The state lifted a quarantine preventing birds from moving within the county. A federal quarantine keeping birds from leaving El Paso and surrounding counties is still in effect but is expected to be lifted in coming weeks, officials said.**

Source: http://www.borderlandnews.com/stories/borderland/20030529-11_8928.shtml

12. *May 29, Age* — **Wheat virus here to stay. Australia's agriculture departments are expected to declare a new wheat virus is impossible to eradicate.** Bureaucrats will meet in Canberra on Friday to look at the latest information on the spread of wheat streak mosaic virus which was detected two months ago at CSIRO research facilities. **In an attempt to control its spread, 40,000 important research plants were destroyed. But since then, the virus has been found at more than 20 sites in NSW, Victoria, South Australia, and Queensland.** A cost-benefit analysis into the virus, and its eradication, has been conducted in recent days. **Scientists are trying to determine if the disease, which some now think has been in the country for up to 20 years, can be eradicated at all.** Australia's chief plant protection officer, Graeme Hamilton, has said that in the United States it took about 60 years for the virus to spread across the country. He said it could take about the same time for the virus to spread into all of Australia's rural areas. The virus is capable of damaging wheat and other crops including rye and oats.

Source: <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/05/29/1054177674819.html>

13. *May 28, Canadian Press* — **U.S. to remain closed to Canadian cattle. Agriculture Minister Lyle Vanclief believes the U.S. border will remain closed to Canadian cattle for at least another week, says his provincial counterpart in Saskatchewan.** "He is not confident this

matter will be behind us, in terms of lifting the ban, early in the new week," Clay Serby said Wednesday. In Ottawa, Vanclief refused to be that definitive, saying outside the House of Commons that the border would be opened "as quickly as we possibly can." But Serby said the federal minister told him not to expect anything soon. "We're apt to be deeper in the week and beyond that," Serby said.

Source: <http://www.canoe.com/CNEWS/Canada/2003/05/28/97950-cp.html>

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Food Sector

Nothing to report.

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Water Sector

14. *May 28, United Press International* — **Al Qaeda threat to U.S. water supply. A spokesman for al Qaeda has told an Arabic-language news magazine that the terror group is planning to try and use poisons to attack the U.S., specifically threatening to contaminate the nation's water supply. Abu Mohammed al-Ablaj told the London-based al-Majallah magazine that "al Qaeda does not rule out using Sarin gas and poisoning drinking water in U.S. and Western cities."** "We will talk about (these weapons) then and the infidels will know what harms them. They spared no effort in their war on us in Afghanistan. They should not therefore rule out the possibility that we will present them with our capabilities," the magazine quotes al-Ablaj as saying in an e-mail interview last week. The interview was published in the latest edition of al-Majallah, dated May 25. Some U.S. officials play down the threat, but others point out that al-Ablaj had communicated with the magazine prior to the suicide attacks earlier this month in Saudi Arabia, warning that al Qaeda was about to stage a major offensive in the kingdom.

Source: <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20030528-065829-8954r>

15. *May 27, Chicago Tribune* — **Sewerage systems hard to secure.** Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, most of the nation's security efforts have focused on facilities such as airports, skyscrapers and nuclear plants. **But experts are beginning to worry about what they say is a serious threat from something so mundane most people rarely think about it: a city sewer system. America's wastewater systems include some 800,000 miles of tunnels, and they lead to every major building in every city in the country. The sewers connect to 16,000 wastewater treatment plants, many of which store large amounts of toxic chemicals. Experts fear the largely unmonitored tunnels could become routes for terrorists.** A bill moving through Congress would provide about \$200 million to help cities evaluate the vulnerability of their waste treatment systems. It also would pay for such improvements as securing sewerage entry points and installing video cameras and fences. Experts, however, say the money is primarily intended to encourage the study of weaknesses of wastewater system security rather than for cities to bolster it. With officials having so many other anti-terrorism concerns, some experts worry that wastewater systems are not getting the attention they merit.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-0305270154may27.1.3351442.story?coll=chi%2Dnewsnationworld%2Dhed>

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Public Health Sector

16. *May 28, New York Times* — **Hong Kong names a panel to plan for SARS. Hong Kong's leader named a panel of international experts Wednesday to draft contingency plans for another Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak next winter, but said no specific official would be investigated in the government's handling of the disease here this spring.** Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's chief executive, said the Chinese territory's secretary of health, welfare, and food, Dr. Yeoh Eng-kiong, would serve as the panel's chairman, and asked for a report by September. "We will be targeting issues and not individuals," Tung said at a news conference. Dr. Yeoh is a controversial figure here because in daily news conferences when the outbreak began in mid-March, he consistently sought to play down its seriousness. **Among the 10 members of the panel named today were public health experts from Australia, Britain, Hong Kong, and the United States. Two more experts from mainland China are to be chosen soon.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/29/science/sciencespecial/29HONG.html>

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

17. *May 29, Associated Press* — **State to weigh options for emergency system.** Emergency personnel agree that aging communications systems used by Maine State Police and other agencies need improvement, but some question the cost of a consultant's recommendation for a \$175 million overhaul. "We're going to have to do something because our system is at high risk for catastrophic failure," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Harmon of the state police, who took part in a four-year study of the VHF system also used by the departments of transportation, conservation and other agencies. **"A lot of the infrastructure is 30 years old and we can't buy new parts for some of the stuff. Not only is the system at risk for interference, but it's at risk because this system has out-used its useful life. We're in the position now that we won't be able to keep it running for a long period,"** Harmon said.

Source: http://www.pressherald.com/news/statehouse/030529emergencies_shtml

18. *May 29, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **Homeland Security helps train citizens for emergencies with \$19 million for community emergency response teams.** Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response, announced on Thursday the availability of \$19 million in grant money to train citizens to be

better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities through local Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). **The grant money represents the FY03 funds made available to expand the CERT program, and is in addition to \$17 million distributed through the FY 02 supplemental appropriation.** FEMA will distribute the funds for state and local level CERT programs to each state and territory according to the formula developed through the Patriot Act. The CERT grants will allow states to fund new programs and to expand existing teams.

Source: http://www.fema.gov/nwz03/nwz03_123.shtm

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

19. *May 28, Santa Cruz Sentinel* — **Hackers threaten confidential student records.** Some Santa Cruz County, CA schools and many nationwide use online systems that allow parents to monitor their children's assignments, attendance and marks over the Internet. However, **the expulsion of two students who allegedly hacked into the computer system of the county's San Lorenzo Valley High School exposes the the vulnerability of online record systems.** Sheriff's investigators allege that in November 2000 and January 2001, the students broke into the school's computer system using stolen passwords. **They allegedly changed grades, read staff e-mail and stole credit card information. Students also allegedly carried out "denial of service" attacks on the school's computer system in August and September 2002.**

Source: <http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/archive/2003/May/28/local/stories/05local.htm>

20. *May 27, vnunet.com* — **UK police provide PR help to cyber crime victims. The UK's National High Tech Crime Unit (NHTCU) is to help handle PR for firms that have been the victims of computer crime, in an attempt to encourage more prosecutions.** In December the unit launched a confidentiality charter, which allows companies to report computer crime without fear of public disclosure, but some firms are pulling out of prosecutions just before they go to court, according to John Lyons of the NHTCU. Lyons said **one problem is companies fear bad publicity from prosecutions. In the event of a prosecution the unit's PR staff will work to avoid leaks and promote a positive image of companies helping the police,** he said.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/News/1141184>

21. *May 26, The Hill* — **Lawmakers see cyberterror vulnerability. Lawmakers are charging that government agencies and industry are not doing enough to protect the country's power plants, industries and financial institutions from the threat of cyberterrorism attacks.** Science committee staffers have noted that **80 to 90 percent of the country's infrastructure is under private control. Staffers for the House Government Reform Technology Subcommittee are making site visits to private sector companies to assess its state of preparedness.** At a subcommittee hearing in April, former White House advisor on cyber security Richard Clarke said, "I think we want to avoid regulation" and a "cyber security police." But a few weeks later, **members of the National Infrastructure Advisory Committee, a White House advisory group, concluded that regulation might be the best way to get some industries to implement better cyber security, as well as physical infrastructure security. An alternative to government regulation is self-regulation** through

regional Information Sharing and Analysis Centers. But **the threat of having competitors aware of a company's vulnerabilities has made this problematic for many organizations.**
 Source: <http://www.hillnews.com/news/052803/cyberterror.aspx>

22. *May 26, InformationWeek* — **More large companies are turning to service providers to handle their security. Only 24% of 286 companies surveyed by Forrester Research in October said they were likely or somewhat likely to outsource security monitoring.** More than twice as many, 53%, said they were very unlikely to turn to other companies for such services. But more businesses may become receptive to the idea of contracting with companies such as Counterpane Internet Security, Guardent, Internet Security Systems, RedSiren, Symantec, TruSecure, Ubizen, Unisys, and VeriSign as the challenge of managing security becomes increasingly complex. **Analyst firm Gartner calls managed security services the fastest-growing IT services sector.** It predicts growth of more than 19% a year, with sales increasing from \$547.8 million last year to \$1.2 billion in 2006. **Another factor that could propel the market's growth is the increasing number of federal and state laws and regulations that require companies to limit access to and keep confidential information on customers and patients, as well as provide an audit trail for investigators.** For example, a law in California that takes effect in July requires state agencies and companies with customers in the state to report all security breaches that may reveal personally identifiable information.
 Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=10100232>

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.G 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	445 (microsoft-ds), 137 (netbios-ns), 80 (www), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 139 (netbios-ssn), 113 (ident), 0 (----), 41170 (----), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 4899 (radmin) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center

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General Sector

23. *May 29, Government Executive* — **Report details homeland security contracting opportunities.** To help venture capitalists and corporations determine how to better target their

dollars in the Homeland Security market, the Washington, D.C.–based homeland security investment firm O'Gara Company on Wednesday unveiled a guide for determining where federal dollars will be spent and where the likely growth areas in the sector are. **While the Homeland Security Department has a fiscal 2003 budget of \$28.2 billion and that is projected to rise to \$36.2 billion in fiscal 2004, O'Gara Company has estimated that the actual market for federal security contracts is only \$6.13 billion in fiscal 2003 and \$7.21 billion in fiscal 2004.** Most of the remaining money is being spent on personnel and other costs of operating the department and hence is not available to private contractors, according to the report.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0503/052803td1.htm>

24. *May 29, Reuters* — Croatia says blocks accounts of al Qaeda suspects. Croatian authorities said on Thursday they had frozen two bank accounts related to people suspected of financing activities of al Qaeda network. **The public prosecutor's office froze the accounts in two Croatian banks after a tip from the local bureau for preventing money laundering.** "Following information that two people authorized to use those accounts are on the United Nations list of suspects for helping al Qaeda, we decided to block them," Deputy General Attorney Lazo Pajic told Reuters.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A52861-2003May 29.html>

25. *May 29, Associated Press* — Saudis: 11 more Riyadh bombing suspects arrested. Three clerics known as sympathizers of the al-Qaeda terror group are among 11 suspected militants detained this week, Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef has said. **Speaking at a news conference, Nayef provided details of the arrests he announced the previous day as having taken place in the holy city of Medina, western Saudi Arabia, during the past few days.** The detainees included three wanted clerics – Ali al-Khudair, Ahmad al-Khalidi and Nasser al-Fahd – the minister said late Wednesday in Tabuk, 60 miles south of the Jordanian–Saudi border.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/2003-05-29-saudi-arrests_x.htm

26. *May 28, Global Security Newswire* — Planned attack on Belgian nuclear facility described in court. Al Qaeda supporters planned a 2001 attack on U.S. soldiers at a Belgian military base that houses nuclear weapons, a trial in Brussels was told Monday **During a November broadcast interview, former Tunisian professional soccer player Nizar Trabelsi said he had planned to attack the base. Trabelsi is one of 23 defendants in the case, Agence France–Presse reported.** The trial began last Thursday and the defendants could face up to 10 years in prison if found guilty of a range of charges, including planning to attack U.S.–related targets.

Source: http://www.nti.org/d_newswire/issues/newswires/2003_5_28.htm l#9

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DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

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