



Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 16 September 2003

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](#)
www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- WLOX-TV reports a local company is blaming faulty pipes for turning several gulf coast gas stations into hazard areas. (See item [1](#))
- The Department of Homeland Security has activated its emergency preparedness and response functions in expectation of landfall from Hurricane Isabel. (See item [19](#))
- The Department of Homeland Security has named Amit Yoran as director of the department's National Cyber Security Division. (See item [22](#))

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: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

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

1. *September 15, WLOX-TV (Biloxi, MS)* — **Gulf Coast hit by wave of leaky gas stations.** A local company is blaming faulty pipes for turning several coast gas stations into hazard areas. Around 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Ocean Springs, MS, **firefighters responded to a call from the Citgo gas station on Hanley and Highway 90. Officials say they found gas on the ground and a potentially dangerous situation.** Fire chief Mark Hare said "Upon arrival, fire crews notified the commanding officer that there was a fairly large volume of gas that had leaked out of the holding tanks." With about 100 gallons of gasoline on the ground, firefighters sprang into action by quickly evacuating the area. **The Mississippi Department of Environmental**

Quality (DEQ). says this is the fourth recent leak from Coastal Energy owned gas stations. Just days ago the DEQ says 800 to 1000 gallons spewed from a station in D'Iberville. The other leaks were in Gulfport and Waveland in which gasoline got into the city sewer system. Coastal energy representatives say they've pin-pointed the problem and they're working to correct it. Roy Ladner, a company spokesman said, "We know what caused it. We're using Enviroflex, flexible lines and they're having them break all over the country."

Source: <http://www.wlox.com/Global/story.asp?S=1441601>

2. *September 15, Reuters* — **U.S. nuclear plants eye dangerous Hurricane Isabel.** Nuclear power plant operators on the U.S. East Coast, while keeping a close eye on Hurricane Isabel, said on Monday they are unlikely to shut their plants until just hours before the powerful storm strikes. **Overall there are eight nuclear power plants along the coast from Florida to New Jersey – among the region's biggest power generators – and several others further inland along the hurricane's projected path.** Isabel, a monster storm packing 140 mph (225 kph) winds, is expected to make landfall Thursday near Cape Hatteras, NC, and move north through Virginia, Maryland, and into central Pennsylvania by early Friday, according to the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida. Storms pose little danger to reactors since they are housed in massive concrete containment buildings easily capable of withstanding hurricane force winds. **But major storms kick up huge ocean swells that can clog cooling water intake systems at some nuclear plants. Debris hurled through the air by strong winds can also cause havoc at the plants' outdoor switchyards, where the megawatts they generate flow into high voltage lines.** Nuclear units lying closest to Isabel's forecast path include Dominion Resources Inc.'s 1,624 megawatt Surry station in Virginia and Constellation Energy Group Inc.'s ,700 MW Calvert Cliffs station in Maryland.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/markets/commodities/newswire/2003/09/15/rtr1082112.html>

3. *September 12, Platts Global Energy News* — **NPPD approves Entergy to run Cooper. The Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) board approved on September 12, a 10-year contract hiring Entergy nuclear, the second largest operator of power reactors in the U.S., to run Cooper.** The NPPD, which will continue to hold the plant's operating license, estimated the value of the contract at \$211-million. "Entergy's vast experience will provide NPPD the expertise and business practices that are critical for the success of nuclear power plant operations today," said Bill Fehrman, NPPD president and CEO. The chief nuclear officer will be an Entergy employee who will report directly to Fehrman. Most of the workers at Cooper will remain NPPD employees.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/nuclear1.html>

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

Chemical Sector

4. *September 15, KSL-TV News (Salt Lake City, UT)* — **Chemical leak forces evacuation.** More than 40 people were evacuated from the E-Center Monday because of a dangerous ammonia leak. **When West Valley, UT, City Fire crews arrived about 9:45, they say there was a visible cloud of ammonia over the north end of the building. Ammonia is used to make ice. Crews were apparently doing work on the system when the ammonia leaked out, and**

splashed on one worker. Capt. Bob Fitzgerald, West Valley City Fire Department remarked, "Fortunately he knew what to do... he got out of the area. And the alarm system of the building worked alerting the rest of the occupants. For something that could have had a bad outcome, it's working very well." Hazmat crews decontaminated the man and say he should be okay.

Source: <http://tv.ksl.com/index.php?sid=48129&nid=5>

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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

Banking and Finance Sector

5. *September 15, Accounting Web* — **SEC seeks ways to work with states. This weekend, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Chairman William Donaldson announced the creation of a new working group between the SEC and state authorities to find ways to coordinate enforcement investigations. The group will establish a protocol for who will handle cases that both the SEC and the states are interested in, and how communication will be improved between the two regulators.** Half of the twelve member task force will be named by the SEC and half by the board of governors of the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA). In announcing the plans for the task force at the annual meeting of the NASAA, which represents state regulators, Chairman Donaldson warned regulators against "tripping over each other" for media attention. "If it appears each of us cares more about getting there first, instead of getting it right, the public will question the fairness and integrity of our process," said Donaldson.

Source: <http://www.accountingweb.com/cgi-bin/item.cgi?id=98103>

6. *September 15, Reuters* — **Bank earnings at all-time high. Commercial banks and thrifts earned a record \$30.2 billion in the second quarter of 2003, up from \$29.4 billion in the first quarter, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) reported. The industry's return on assets matched a record high at 1.38 percent in the second quarter, and was up from 1.37 percent in the same quarter a year earlier, the FDIC said.** Bank earnings were boosted by strong loan growth, the sale of assets and falling losses from bad loans, FDIC chief economist Rich Brown said. But Brown warned that a recent rise in long-term interest rates could slow down mortgage lending and refinancing and crimp future bank earnings. Brown said bank regulators expect business loan demand to pick up in the second half of the year as the overall economy improves.

Source: http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/business/20030914-9999_1b14earns.html

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

Transportation Sector

- 7.

September 15, U.S. Newswire — **New security measures will be demonstrated as part of \$20 million bus grant program.** Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Administrator, Adm. James M. Loy in coordination with Greyhound Lines, Inc., and key elected officials **will hold a press conference to demonstrate prototype designs of new security equipment for buses.** The event will include a guided bus tour by Greyhound officials, who are receiving \$9 million in grants as part of the program. **The tour will include a demonstration of a bus that has driver security measures as well as improved communications and tracking technology.**

Source: <http://releases.usnewswire.com/GetRelease.asp?id=139-09152003>

8. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Unruly passenger on flight from Hawaii subdued with duct tape. Airplane passengers subdued and then duct-taped a man who was pacing the aisle and reading loudly from the Bible during a flight from Hawaii, police and witnesses said. No one was injured and the man was handed over to authorities after the plane landed at Los Angeles International Airport early Sunday,** said Sgt. Carl Sansbury of the airport police. Brian Eager, 36, of Austin, Texas, was held for 72 hours for a psychological examination, FBI Special Agent Matt McLaughlin said. Sansbury said he didn't know what prompted the outburst on the United Airlines flight from Honolulu. He said the FBI was investigating. **Passengers and a U.S. immigration and customs agent who was travelling for personal reasons helped restrain Eager but he managed to slip out of handcuffs, McLaughlin said. Eager could face a federal charge of interfering with a flight crew, Sansbury said.**

Source: http://www3.cjad.com/content/cjad_news/article.asp?id=w091449A

9. *September 13, Star Tribune (Mpls)* — **Trucker's wisecrack causes shutdown of Iowa interstate.** A Minnesota trucker and thousands of motorists in Iowa found out the hard way that September 11 is an especially bad day to joke about detonating explosives. **A six-mile stretch of Interstate Hwy. 29 in western Iowa was closed for several hours Thursday after Alexey Artemenko of Foreston told a weigh-station officer that he was carrying explosives that could go off at any time. Artemenko quickly added that he was joking, but by then it was too late. Officials handcuffed him, read him his rights and took him to a nearby county jail. They also called in explosives experts and shut down busy I-29, routing motorists along county blacktops.** Artemenko, 34, was charged with making a false report, a Class D felony in Iowa, said Capt. Lance Evans of the Iowa Department of Transportation. He was released from jail about 5:30 p.m. and got back into his truck to make scheduled deliveries in Nebraska and Utah for his employer, S.A.V. Express Inc. of Blaine. His boss, Joe Speltz, said Artemenko was carrying shotgun shells and recreational equipment. Speltz said Artemenko is a good driver and didn't mean any harm.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/stories/1405/4095255.html>

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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

Agriculture Sector

10. *September 15, Agriculture Online* — **Scientists find another soybean woe. Soybean growers in Illinois are facing a major outbreak of charcoal rot, according to a recent survey conducted by researchers from the University of Illinois and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. "Under the current conditions, yield losses could run from very little up to 30 percent," Glen Hartman, plant pathologist at the University of Illinois said. "The problem will most often vary greatly within the different parts of a field. At the same time, I received a call from a grower who had a field where 95 percent of the plants were infected." Hartman points out that there are currently no practical options for managing this disease. "We do not have any resistant varieties available to recommend to growers," he said. "Rotation probably will not work because charcoal rot can infect corn and other common crops. The only way to control this problem is to irrigate or not plant soybeans in a field for 10 or 15 years, which is really not practical at all." Hartman advocates a two-pronged research approach for dealing with the problem in the long term. "We need to look at both bio-tech and tradition approaches to finding genetic resistance," he said.**

Source: http://www.agriculture.com/default.sph/AgNews.class?FNC=topStoryDetail_ANewsindex_html_50607_1

11. *September 15, Iowa Ag Connection* — **Crop values seen falling in Iowa.** The market value of Iowa's corn and soybeans is expected to be \$750 million less than last year, and the state will lose its distinction as the largest producer of soybeans, according to projections released Thursday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). **Confirming fears that the hot, dry summer would cut into farm income, the USDA said Iowa's corn harvest will be 5 percent smaller than a year ago, while its soybean crop will shrink by more than 18 percent.** The monthly crop production report released Thursday, by the USDA, put Iowa's 2003 corn production at nearly 1.9 billion bushels, 100 million bushels lower than last year. The government projected Iowa soybean production of about 404 million bushels, is down 91 million bushels from a year ago. **At current cash market prices, Iowa's 2003 crops are worth about \$750 million less than last year's, economists said.** Crop insurance, federal farm subsidies, and other factors will ease losses for many farmers, but those benefits will be offset by this year's unexpected expenses, including higher fuel prices and the cost of combating this year's widespread outbreak of soybean aphids.

Source: <http://www.iowaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=717&yr=2003>

12. *September 15, Illinois Ag Connection* — **Livestock veterinarians in short supply. Fewer veterinarians are available to make farm calls in Illinois and across the nation, and Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) is investigating ways to address that shortage. Nationwide, veterinary graduates of all types are in demand. Yet, veterinary graduates are less interested in treating farm animals.** The IFB Board of Directors wants to meet with University of Illinois vet college officials to explore potential ways to entice more graduates into livestock work, possibly with student assistance programs, loans, or some other means, says IFB livestock program director Jim Fraley.

Source: <http://www.illinoisagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=709&yr=2003>

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

Water Sector

13. *September 15, News-Leader* — **Removing drugs from water may get easier.** Removing antibiotic drugs and other medicines from drinking water supplies could be easier than it first appears, a University of Missouri–Rolla (UMR) researcher has found. **It is likely that water treatment plant operators can cut trace levels of pharmaceuticals that get through sewage treatment systems by adjusting amounts of activated charcoal and chlorine now used to purify water, environmental engineering professor Craig Adams said. That means water treatment plant operators might not have to worry about needing new, expensive technology to rid water of drugs if levels of such substances are regulated in the future, he said.** Adams, fellow researchers, and a group of students have been using testing equipment at a UMR laboratory to find ways of removing sulfa antibiotics and endocrine disruptors from drinking water by using traditional water treatment methods. Finding pharmaceuticals in surface water and groundwater started becoming a health and environmental concern in the late 1990s when water testing methods became sophisticated enough to detect the drugs.
Source: <http://www.news-leader.com/today/0915-Riddingwat-163878.html>

14. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Water system common Legionnaires' source. Outbreaks of Legionnaires disease are often blamed on germs from air conditioning systems in big buildings, but new research shows residential hot water pipes can also be a common source of the disease.** Legionnaires is a form of pneumonia caused by a bacteria that occurs naturally in water. **The latest work, combined with earlier studies, suggests the bacteria often grow in the slime lining residential hot water pipes, and home water may be responsible for about 20 percent of cases.** "The evidence suggests that the residential water system is an underappreciated source of Legionnaires disease," said Janet Stout, a microbiologist who heads that special pathogens lab at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Pittsburgh. Stout estimates that between 2 percent and 5 percent of the 600,000 pneumonia cases requiring hospitalization in the U.S. each year are caused by Legionella pneumophila bacteria. **"The overall perception we have that drinking water in the home is free of bacteria is a misconception," said Stout.** "Although Legionnaires is a naturally occurring organism in water, people should be aware this is a potential source of disease."
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2003/HEALTH/conditions/09/15/legionnaires.ap/>

[[Return to top](#)]

Public Health Sector

15. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Hong Kong woman has SARS-like symptoms. A woman suffering from fever was admitted to a government hospital on Monday for further tests because of fears that she could have Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), the Hong Kong Hospital Authority said.** The Hospital Authority said in a statement that the

30-year-old woman sought treatment at a private hospital last Wednesday and that radiographic tests there showed she had spots in her lungs in addition to the fever. She was taken to the government's Princess Margaret Hospital on Monday because the initial tests done by the private doctors do not rule out the possibility that she might have SARS, the statement said. Last week, Singapore reported its first case of SARS in four months, becoming the first country to announce a new patient since the World Health Organization declared the disease under control in July.

Source: http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/ap20030915_1023.html

16. *September 15, Reuters* — **Experts start probe in SARS case. A team of international experts visited laboratories in Singapore Monday in a bid to track the source of a mysterious single case of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) that stirred fears the disease might have returned.** A 27-year-old researcher is recovering after having been diagnosed last week with SARS. He is believed to have caught the potentially fatal disease in a laboratory where he worked, and where work on SARS was done. **Singapore's health ministry said an 11-member panel to investigate the case was being chaired by Antony Della-Porta, an Australian biosafety expert with the World Health Organization. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also provided two experts to help with the investigation.** "The international experts on the panel started work today and have visited some of the laboratories," the Singapore health ministry said in a statement. The panel is expected to finish its work next week. Twenty-five people who came into contact with the Singapore researcher were quarantined at home although none has symptoms of SARS, the Singapore health ministry said.

Source: <http://asia.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews&storyID=3444951>

17. *September 14, Boston Globe* — **Rationing of medical care under study. A group of doctors and medical ethicists is working to develop national guidelines for the rationing of expensive intensive-care unit (ICU) treatment.** Physicians and nurses often make rationing decisions based on their own biases or their hospital's financial condition, members of the task force say. This happens most often with ICU care, which accounts for 20 percent of hospital costs. **In an informal national poll of 620 intensive care physicians last year, 55 percent of doctors said they've withheld medication, tests, or services because they felt the cost outweighed the potential benefits to the patient, the Society of Critical Care Medicine, found. Seventy-four percent said they would withhold care from a patient who would not benefit much so they could provide it to a patient who would benefit more.** Members of the task force said rationing has occurred for years, but may be becoming more prevalent because the cost of medical care is growing more rapidly and certain resources are dwindling. **Many policy specialists say that coming up with national rationing guidelines will be too hard, partly because guidelines become obsolete with new treatments and new studies about their effectiveness for certain groups of patients.**

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2003/09/14/rationing_of_medical_care_under_study/

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

Government Sector

18. *September 15, Reuters* — **Coast Guard readies for Isabel to hit East Coast. U.S. Coast Guard units along the U.S. eastern seaboard are gearing up operations in advance of Hurricane Isabel, though shipping at ports has not yet been affected, Coast Guard officials said on Monday.** "Every Coast Guard unit in the Mid Atlantic states is getting ready. All Coast Guard units have begun implementing plans," Lt. Buddy Dye a public affairs officer in Portsmouth, VA, told Reuters on Monday. **The Marine Safety Office for ports at Hampton Roads, VA, reported no impact as yet on shipping traffic, including key coal exports at the U.S. largest coal export port. The Coast Guard office for New York Harbor also reported no affect on shipping traffic, including key oil tanker traffic, as of Monday.** But Petty Officer Mike Lutz in New York said that while New York Harbor was not yet in the storm track, the possibility Isabel would affect the harbor could change. The NHC's five-day forecast, which has a large margin of error, had the storm moving onshore near Cape Hatteras, NC, and then northward along the Chesapeake Bay near Washington DC, through Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters_pma_2003_09_15_eng-reuters_pma_COAST-GUARD-READIES-FOR-ISABEL-TO-HIT-EAST-COAST&SMContentSet=0

19. *September 15, Department of Homeland Security* — **Homeland Security prepares for Hurricane Isabel. The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has activated its emergency preparedness and response functions in expectation of landfall from Hurricane Isabel.** The massive Category 4 hurricane, according to forecasts from the National Hurricane Center, is aiming for a Thursday afternoon landfall somewhere along the east coast of the U.S. **The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which became part of Homeland Security on March 1, has activated its Headquarters operations center as well as regional operation centers in three of its four east coast regions as it prepares to protect the lives and property of America's citizens.** FEMA's National Emergency Response Teams have been alerted with one team activated and deployed to the Philadelphia regional office to assist the regional management in marshalling response forces. Three of FEMA's five Advanced Initial Response Resources Deployment Packages with cots, blankets, emergency meals, portable toilets, plastic sheeting, bottled water and generators have been moved to several forward staging areas in advance of Isabel's **This stretch of mid-Atlantic coastline also includes the District of Columbia, which is taking steps to alert and prepare residents for strong winds and heavy rains.**

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=1578>

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

Emergency Services Sector

20. *September 15, Government Computer News* — **Maryland county gets ready for Enhanced 911 service.** Montgomery County, MD, is implementing Enhanced 911 in its emergency communications system to help dispatchers and rescue personnel locate emergency callers who use cellular phones. **E911 is part of the county's new Public Safety Data System, a \$175 million infrastructure upgrade by Northrop Grumman Corp.** "We have been waiting for the phone companies to define the standards for how the data will be sent," Montgomery County chief technology officer Mike Knuppel said. **Before Enhanced 911, emergency call**

centers had no way to locate the origin of 911 transmissions from cell phones. The emergency communications system serves the county sheriff's office and police department as well as municipal police, fire and emergency medical services. During last year's Washington area sniper shootings, the county distributed some of the new, 800-MHz digital radios from its communications upgrade so that police in other jurisdictions could participate in the manhunt.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/23526-1.html

21. *September 15, Times Herald (Port Huron, MI)* — **St. John adding chemical decontamination room.** Five years ago, Paul Florkey was not concerned with the threat of chemical attacks in Michigan. **Today, Florkey, director of plant operations at St. John River District Hospital, is overseeing a \$10,000 project to install a decontamination room in the hospital's emergency unit. "In this day and age, where anything is possible, it's best to augment and improve (the chemical emergency facilities)," Florkey said. "It's one of those things you spend money on, but hope you never have to use." The decontamination rooms are specialized showers used to wash patients clear of dangerous chemicals, then safely dispose of the chemicals. The hospital now has only portable showers for the purpose. Florkey, who serves on one of eight federally organized bioterrorism planning boards in Michigan, said the board did a study on emergency needs in the area. Since chemical trucks regularly travel through the township, the hospital could benefit from the ability to handle a chemical emergency.**

Source: <http://www.thetimesherald.com/news/stories/20030915/localnews/262735.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Information and Telecommunications Sector

22. *September 16, Federal Computer Week* — **Yoran named head of national cybersecurity. Homeland Security Department officials named Amit Yoran as director of the department's National Cyber Security Division, which will help serve as the country's central coordination point for all cyber incident preparation, warning and response.** The division was created in June, and officials have been working to find a leader who could bring the necessary experience and presence to work with government and industry on infrastructure protection. Yoran, currently vice president of managed security services at Symantec Corp., will ably fill that role, said Robert Liscouski, assistant secretary for infrastructure protection at DHS. Yoran will lead the development of what is to be known as the U.S. Computer Emergency Response Team, or US-CERT, intended to be a "a single streamlined center for incident response," Liscouski said.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0915/web-cyber-09-15-03.asp>

23. *September 15, CNET News.com* — **Restrictions lifted on NY Times hacker. A federal judge on Friday, September 12, said Adrian Lamo, the so-called "homeless hacker," could go free on bail with only limited restrictions on his computer use until his next court date in October.** U.S. Magistrate Judge Debra Freeman kept Lamo's bail at the earlier amount of \$250,000 but lifted the restrictions that barred him from using a computer at all. Instead, Freeman said, the 22-year-old California resident can use a computer for email and to apply for a job or a college program. Lamo is facing two criminal charges. One claims he illegally

entered the network of The New York Times, viewed confidential employee records and created a false administrator account; the other says he ran up about \$300,000 on the paper's Lexis–Nexis account.

Source: <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/business/legal/0.39020651.39116344.0.0.htm>

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Alert Levels	
 AlertCon: 1 out of 4 https://gtoc.iss.net	 Security Focus ThreatCon: 2 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	135 (epmap), 445 (microsoft–ds), 139 (netbios–ssn), 593 (http–rpc–epmap), 1434 (ms–sql–m), 137 (netbios–ns), 80 (www), 21 (ftp), 1433 (ms–sql–s), 554 (rtsp) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center

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

General Sector

24. *September 15, Associated Press* — **Blast kills two in Russia. A truck filled with explosives blew up Monday outside a government security building in a southern Russian region bordering Chechnya, killing at least two people and wounding at least 25, an official said.** The explosion shattered all the windows in the Ingushetia regional headquarters of the Federal Security Service, or FSB, ripping part of the roof open and leaving the three–story building severely damaged but still standing. The ITAR–Tass news agency reported that there were as many as 100 people in the building at the time of the blast. Accounts differed as to whether the truck had been driven by a suicide bomber or parked outside the building. **A series of suicide bombings and other attacks in and around Chechnya and in Moscow has killed more than 150 people in the past five months. The nation had been on high alert amid fears that rebels would try to stage an attack ahead of Chechnya's October 5 presidential election, a vote that Russian President Vladimir Putin has said is a key step on the road to peace.**
 Source: http://abcnews.go.com/wire/World/ap20030915_790.html

25. *September 15, CNN* — **Search for kidnapped tourists. Troops, police, and helicopters were scouring jungle in the Sierra Nevada area of Colombia after eight Western tourists were kidnapped by suspected Marxist rebels.** About 1,500 troops and police, supported by Black Hawk helicopters, were searching the Tayrona national park in the northeast of the country after

the kidnapping early Friday. The tourists include four Israelis, two Britons, a German, and a Spaniard. Others in their group of 15 were left with their hands and feet bound in a hut but managed to escape and alert authorities. British and Israeli authorities are set to travel to the region, and Colombian President Alvaro Uribe has pledged all efforts are being made to find the group. One victim who escaped said the attackers, believed to be from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), were "calm and polite." **Only a small percentage of the estimated 2,000 people kidnapped by the FARC each year are ever rescued and most are only released after a ransom is paid.** Their victims report forced marches lasting days as they are shuttled between malarial jungle prisons. **FARC currently holds three U.S. military contractors and dozens of Colombian politicians, police and soldiers whom it wants to exchange for imprisoned rebels.**

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/americas/09/15/colombia.ki.dnap/>

26. *September 15, New York Times* — **China sends armed forces to monitor North Korean border. Chinese armed forces have moved into new positions along the country's border with North Korea, charged with defending an 870-mile crossing.** Chinese foreign ministry officials confirmed in a statement issued this afternoon that troops from the People's Liberation Army had replaced police along the border, though they did not confirm Hong Kong news reports that the move involved as many as 150,000 soldiers. The move marks a subtle but significant change in relations between the two Communist states, which fought together against the U.S. in the Korean War and still have a mutual defense treaty. **While Chinese officials described the new border arrangements as a routine adjustment, it comes at a time when Beijing has exerted fresh pressure on North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons program. China is the main sponsor of multilateral negotiations involving North Korea, the U.S., and three other countries aimed at reaching a negotiated settlement to the Korean arms standoff.** The dispatch of army troops also suggests that China could be preparing for the possibility of conflict in the region, though analysts said they considered it highly unlikely that China intends to threaten North Korea militarily.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/09/15/international/asia/15CND-C.HIN.html>

27. *September 14, American Forces Press Service* — **Cheney: September 11 changed everything.** Vice President Richard B. Cheney said that **the cost of doing nothing or being unsuccessful in the global war on terror would be far higher than getting the job done right.** September 11 changed everything, continued Cheney during an interview on NBC's "Meet the Press." The vice president said the reality is that there are plots by al Qaeda and related groups to launch attacks against the United States. **Cheney noted "significant successes" in the war on terror. He cited taking down the Taliban, destroying the al Qaeda base, launching an attack into Iraq, destroying Iraqi armed forces, taking down the government of Iraq, getting rid of Saddam Hussein, and killing or capturing 42 of the deposed regime's 55 top leaders.**

Source: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Sep2003/n09142003_200309142.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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