



Information Bulletin
July 4th General Awareness
July 1, 2003

Attention Security Managers: As we approach the July 4th 2003 holiday, ongoing analysis of intelligence information and assessments show no specific, credible information identifying terrorist intentions to conduct attacks against National Independence Day celebrations or related venues. Although the recent publicized threat to the oil and gas sector cannot be corroborated, this sector continues to represent a high value target for the terrorists. DHS will continue to coordinate with the intelligence community throughout the holiday period and provide immediate threat notification as warranted.

Overview: Terrorists are opportunistic. They exploit vulnerabilities left exposed, choosing the time, place and method of attack according to the weaknesses they observe or perceive. Increasing the security of a particular type of target makes it more difficult for terrorists to strike successfully. In order to protect ourselves from those who desire to harm our nation it is important to maintain awareness by looking for suspicious activity or “things out of place.”

Details: DHS continues to recommend the following protective measures: maintaining heightened status of security forces, maintaining irregularly-timed security sweeps, conducting identity checks, etc. ID checks conducted at security points should be considered in order to verify the valid business need for an approaching vehicle. Special vigilance should be maintained for multiple vehicles arriving outside the window of scheduled activities. The use of random or rolling patrol operations can be effective in signaling to terrorists that their chances of succeeding are minimal and terrorist operations may be disrupted and prevented.

DHS emphasizes the need to continue our vigilance in order to ensure the security of our homeland. Our ability to assess threats requires timely information. Continued reporting from State/local and private sectors is critical in creating a national threat profile. DHS encourages reporting of suspicious activities during all threat levels.

Federal agencies, private citizens and companies, can call (202) 323-3205, 1-888-585-9078. Federal agencies, private citizens, and companies may report incidents online at <http://www.nipc.gov/incident/cirr.htm>.

DHS intends to update this information should it receive additional relevant information, including information provided to it by the user community. Based on this notification, no change to the Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) is anticipated; the current HSAS level is “YELLOW.”