CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

9 NOVEMBER 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Azusa—Shooting Near Polling Sites Leaves 1 Dead, 2 Critically Injured
(U) A man armed with an assault rifle launched a rampage yesterday in his Azusa neighborhood, killing one man and critically wounding two women before he attempted to ambush responding police officers. The gunfire forced authorities to secure the neighborhood and shut down nearby polling places—sending voters scrambling to find alternate locations as police confronted the assailant. The motive for the shooting remains under investigation, but a Los Angeles County Sheriff spokesman said the 45-year-old assailant was on a cocaine binge. The assailant was found dead in a home's entryway, believed to be killed by the return fire of the responding officers.
SOURCE: 8 November 2016, Los Angeles Times

(U) Newport Beach—Head of $12 Million Synthetic Marijuana Ring Pleads Guilty
(U) A 41-year-old man said to be the leader of a drug ring that distributed more than $12 million worth of dangerous synthetic drugs, commonly referred to as "spice" or "bath salts," pleaded guilty to drug, weapons and money laundering charges Monday afternoon, federal prosecutors said. Sean Libbert's group smuggled in the chemicals used to make the drugs from China, then sold their own brand of synthetic marijuana, dubbed "Da Kine Blend" over the Internet, according to court documents. Over the course of 16 months, the organization smuggled well over 600 pounds of chemicals into the US allowing it to be one of the largest importers and distributors of synthetic drugs in the nation, according to the prosecutor.
SOURCE: 8 November 2016, Los Angeles Times

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Virginia—Two Somali Pirates Receive Life Sentences, Third Gets 33 Years
(U) Norfolk—Two Somali pirates accused of attacking a US Navy warship in 2010 have been sentenced to life in prison, while a third got a lighter sentence for cooperating in another case, according to news reports. In April 2010, Abdi Razaq Abshir Osman, Mohamad Abdi Jama, and five others mistook the USS Ashland (LSD-48) for a cargo ship and opened fire on it with their AK-47 rifles in an attempt to capture it in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia. Instead, sailors on the Ashland returned fire on the small pirate skiff, killing one and capturing the others. Two other convicted pirates are still awaiting sentencing.
SOURCE: 8 November 2016, Business Insider

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada—Lab Worker Isolated After Possible Ebola Exposure
(U) Winnipeg—An employee at a Canadian government-run infectious disease lab may have been exposed to Ebola, health officials announced yesterday. The incident occurred Monday at a level 4 containment lab at the National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The individual was working with pigs that had been infected with the deadly virus for research purposes

when a split in the seam of the protective suit was discovered during the standard decontamination process for leaving the lab. Officials have no reason to believe the employee involved was in contact with the bodily fluids of the infected pig, but will undergo 21 days of "self-isolation" and monitoring by local health officials as a precaution.
SOURCE: 9 November 2016, CNN

(U) Nigeria—Gunmen Kill 30+ Miners in Remote North
(U) Maru—Gunmen killed more than 30 gold miners in a remote area of northern Nigeria yesterday, according to police. The attackers raided a camp of artisan miners late Monday in the Maru area in the northwestern state of Zamfara, said a police spokesman, adding that nothing was stolen and that the motive for the attack was unclear. In March, gunmen attacked a camp in the same state, killing one miner in what a police official described as possible conflict between miners.
SOURCE: 8 November 2016, Reuters

(U) Portugal—Anti-Terror Police Arrest 20 Neo-Nazis Over Hate Crimes
(U) Lisbon—Police from Portugal's National Anti-Terrorism Unit arrested 20 ultra-nationalists yesterday in an operation that involved searches across the country as part of an investigation into attempted murder and other hate crimes. The Lisbon District Prosecutor's office said in a statement those detained were part of the Hammerskin Nation, a neo-Nazi skinhead group based in the US city of Dallas. The crimes being investigated took place between 2013 and 2015 and include at least one attempted murder, robbery, and religious and sexual discrimination, prosecutors said. The police operation was the largest against neo-Nazi gangs since 2007.
SOURCE: 8 November 2016, Reuters

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California—Woman Gets 10-Year Sentence for Fentanyl Smuggling
(U) Chula Vista—A 43-year-old woman who smuggled 26 pounds of fentanyl in her pickup from Mexico was sentenced to 10 years in prison on Monday. In May, Graciela Poteciano attempted to drive her Chevy Avalanche through the San Ysidro Port of Entry when US Customs and Border Protection officers discovered the fentanyl in a spare tire attached to the undercarriage, along with 10 pounds of methamphetamine and 6 pounds of heroin. The drugs had a combined street value of more than $159,000, according to evidence presented at trial by the US Attorney's Office.
SOURCE: 8 November 2016, San Diego Union Tribune

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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