



VANGUARD

PROVIDING INFORMATION ON NATIONAL SECURITY FOR STATE & LOCAL POLICYMAKERS

15 April 2009

Volume 2· Issue 18

Book tells story of EMP attack

By Mead Treadwell and Jeremy Thompson, editors

A novel by William Forstchen, titled *One Second Later*, tells the story of a small town in North Carolina after the United States suffers a devastating electromagnetic pulse attack from a sea-based missile. The story explores the struggle the main character endures because of the collapse of the infrastructure he had previously taken for granted: delivery of common necessities for living, law enforcement protection and insulin for his diabetic child.

The event in the novel that causes the EMP wave is one of the threats outlined in the 2009 report of the Independent Working Group on Missile Defense titled, "Missile Defense, the Space Relationship, and the Twenty-First Century." The report warns of "a number of asymmetric threats, including the possibility of...the devastation of American critical infrastructure as a result of electromagnetic pulse," and that these threats "pose a direct challenge to the safety and security of the United States."

The report warns that these threats can be deployed with little or no warning from ships off our coasts. The same threat was highlighted by Rep. Roscoe Bartlett (R-Maryland) in 2008 on the floor of Congress. The problem he points out is knowing the source of the launch.

"I don't think we will know who launched it because I don't think that any nation will launch against us from their soil because our satellites would detect the launch and we would know where it came from," Bartlett said. "And why should they? There are thousands of ships in the north Atlantic shipping lanes. It is impossible to keep track of those ships. It would be very easy to--and their literature talks about this--using a short range or a medium range missile, to launch from a ship."

The novel vividly pictures the real threat of an EMP attack. In an interview with National Review's John Miller, the author emphasized the need for individual preparation.

"The American public needs to be prepared, the same way everyone in a hurricane zone has learned," says Forstchen. "Don't rely on the government. Rely on yourself. I think every American should be prepared for this type of thing. Study up on it. Talk about it with your neighbors. Talk about it as a community, because your first-responders have not been trained [on how to respond during an EMP attack], and will openly admit that and are concerned about it."

Related Resources:

[Author's website](#)

[Buy *One Second Later* on Amazon.com](#)

[Audio: Interview with author William Forstchen](#)

[Congressional record testimony by Roscoe Bartlett on EMP](#)

[2009 report on Missile Defense, the Space Relationship and the Twenty-First Century](#)

From the Wires this Week

Emergency Management/Homeland Security

U.S. names border czar to watch U.S.-Mexico border (AP, 04/15/09)

http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D97J1UJO1&show_article=1

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano named a former federal prosecutor to the new post of "border czar" to oversee efforts to end drug-cartel violence along the U.S.-Mexico border and slow the tide of people crossing illegally into the United States. Napolitano named Alan Bersin, a former Justice Department official who was charged with cracking down on illegal immigration in the 1990s, to fill the post at the Homeland Security Department. *Related article: [DHS secretary, homeland security adviser to visit border](#).*

Canada launches major sweep for gang (UPI, 04/15/09)

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2009/04/15/Canada-launches-major-Hells-Angels-sweep/UPI-89451239804807/

A massive international sweep of nearly all Hells Angels motorcycle gang members in or from Quebec was launched in Montreal, targeting 156 people. At a news conference, the Surete du Quebec provincial police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said 1,200 police officers were executing 177 search warrants related to 22 murders that took place between 1992 and 2009, along with drug trafficking activities, The Gazette newspaper reported. The sweep took 200 officers three years to prepare, and the targets include just about every active member of the motorcycle gang in Quebec, including at least one woman, the newspaper said.

Legion objects to vets as terror risk (Washington Times, 04/15/09)

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/apr/15/legion-objects-to-vets-as-terror-risk/>

The American Legion criticized a new Homeland Security report as unfairly stereotyping veterans by suggesting that some soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan could be recruited by right-wing extremists to participate in violent actions. "I think it is important for all of us to remember that Americans are not the enemy. The terrorists are," David K. Rehbein, national commander of the veterans organization, said in a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano about a security assessment titled "Rightwing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence and Recruitment." The report cited the example of Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh in warning that the return of disgruntled military veterans could lead to "terrorist groups or

lone wolf extremists capable of carrying out violent attacks." *Press release: [Statement from Napolitano on the report](#)*.

Louisiana uses DHS grant to set up urban search and rescue system (Advocate, 04/10/09)

<http://www.theadvocate.com/news/42786847.html>

The state is using part of an \$18.8 million federal homeland security grant to establish a statewide urban search and rescue system designed for rapid response after hurricanes and other disasters. The state is dedicating a combined \$1.32 million for the three new urban search and rescue teams, which will be based in Baton Rouge, Shreveport and New Orleans. Gov. Bobby Jindal, who announced the move at a news conference with first responders from across the state, said the closest urban search and rescue team is in Texas and takes up to 20 hours to mobilize and travel to Louisiana. The new state teams could respond quickly after hurricanes, building collapses, tornados or man-made disasters, Jindal said.

Food safety efforts have stalled in recent years (Washington Post, 04/10/09)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/09/AR2009040902495.html>

Efforts to reduce the number of food-borne illnesses in the United States have stalled in the past three years, and some illnesses are on the upswing, giving new urgency to efforts to reform the nation's food safety system, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. Several factors are fueling the trend, including the intricacy of the U.S. food chain, the changing nature of the contaminating bacteria and the rise in imported food, a CDC official said. Bacteria that used to be associated mainly with meats and poultry have recently shown up in fresh produce, posing new risks, he said. Examples include E. coli 0157 in spinach and salmonella in peanuts and pistachios. *Related article: [Georgia still lacking in food safety](#)*.

UK breaks up terrorist attack plot (BBC News, 04/10/09)

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/7993304.stm

Police scouring homes for evidence of a planned terror attack in the Manchester area are studying photographs found at one location, the BBC has learned. Senior officers described claims that shopping centers and a nightclub were among potential targets as speculation. Twelve men, 11 of them Pakistani and most of them students, are still being questioned over the alleged plot. Gordon Brown has said Pakistan must do more to stop terrorism. Pakistan says student visa checks are up to the UK. Police arrested the 12 suspects during a series of raids in Manchester, Liverpool and Clitheroe in Lancashire.

Scabies cases discovered at Massachusetts airport (WBZ, 04/09/09)

<http://wbztv.com/health/logan.airport.scabies.2.968562.html>

Three TSA workers at Logan Airport have been diagnosed with scabies. The three people who were infected worked at the same checkpoint during the same shift, TSA officials said. To help prevent further infection, all TSA employees were told to take all their clothes and uniforms home to wash. The affected employees were put on sick leave until their doctors tell them it's OK to return to work. Massport said they worked with health agencies to clean potentially affected areas and determined there was no further risk of infection. TSA officials say all their workers wear gloves so the public should not be concerned about getting scabies.

DHS announces nearly \$970 million in preparedness grant final allocations (Global Security Newswire, 04/08/09)

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090409_6485.php

The U.S. Homeland Security Department said it would distribute \$970 million to private firms and state, local and tribal governments through a host of disaster preparedness grant programs. The Transit Security Grant Program, an initiative aimed at securing key transportation systems against terrorism, is expected to hand out \$388.6 million. The Freight Rail Security Grant Program would distribute \$15 million of that allotment to help track freight shipments of dangerous chemical ingredients; carry out security reviews; map out security improvements; and provide security training to transit personnel.

Communications and Information Security

DHS grants total millions for IT (Federal Computer Week, 04/09/09)

<http://fcw.com/articles/2009/04/09/dhs-gives-grants-for-truck-tracking-and-real-id.aspx>

The Homeland Security Department's final allocations for \$970 million in preparedness grants to state and local governments and private entities include millions of dollars for information technology programs. The largest allocations are \$389 million for port security and \$389 million for transit security, including freight rail, intercity passenger rail, truck and bus programs. The ports will be able to use a portion of the funds for the Transportation Workers Identification Credential initiative.

AP: Spies compromised U.S. power grid (AP, 04/09/09)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gTamvV9J8BmeVmQift2odb--mBigD97EJO000>

Spies hacked into the U.S. electric grid and left behind computer programs that would let them disrupt service, exposing potentially catastrophic vulnerabilities in key pieces of national infrastructure, a former U.S. government official said. The intrusions were discovered after electric companies gave the government permission to audit their systems, the ex-official said. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. The inspections of the electric grid were triggered by fears over a March 2007 video from the Idaho National Laboratory, which had staged a demonstration of what damage hackers could do if they seized control of a crucial part of the electric grid. Although the resulting audits turned up evidence of spying sometime earlier, the former official told the AP that the extent of the problem is unknown, because the government does not have blanket authority to examine other electric systems. *[Related article: China denies involvement in hacking U.S. grid.](#)*

National Guard

Louisiana Guard tests disaster readiness (National Guard Bureau, 04/05/09)

<http://www.ngb.army.mil/news/archives/2009/04/040709-Louisiana.aspx?src=rss>

The Louisiana National Guard teamed up with local, state and federal emergency management agencies to test its disaster response capabilities around the state. The exercise tested the LANG's response plan to identified deficiencies prior to the 2009 hurricane season and also to evaluate

LANG's ability to respond to multiple missions simultaneously. "A lot of the times we focus on hurricanes, but it has to be an all-hazards approach," said Maj. Gen. Bennett C. Landreneau, the adjutant general of the Louisiana National Guard. "This exercise allows us to showcase just that, in order to respond to whatever the situation may be." The training showcased the LANG's ability to respond quickly to any and all emergency situations by conducting simulated air, water and ground search and rescue operations, while also maintaining sound coordination throughout.

Missile Defense/Satellite Technology/EMP

India test fires nuclear capable ballistic missile (RIA Novosti, 04/15/09)

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20090415/121128629.html>

India successfully test-fired a Prithvi-II ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, Indian media reported. The ballistic missile, with an effective range of 150-250 kilometers, was test-fired from a mobile launcher at the Chandipur test range, defense sources said. The surface-to-surface missile can carry a 500 kg-to-1,000 kg warhead. An Indian navy vessel was anchored near the impact point in the Bay of Bengal and a long-range tracking radar was deployed to track the missile's flight.

Opinion: The response to the North Korea launch (UPI, 04/14/09)

<http://www.upi.com/news/issueoftheday/2009/04/14/UN-condemns-N-Korea-so-what/UPI-98041239727374/>

Russia and China have consistently sought to block any effective U.N. action or more powerful economic sanctions that might put significant pressure on North Korea to scrap its missile and nuclear development programs. China wants to preserve North Korea as a buffer state to prevent democratic influences from South Korea or Japan entering and destabilizing its own vast population. On the chessboard of global power, the possible threat from North Korea preoccupies and threatens Japan, forcing it to turn to China as a "stabilizing influence" on Pyongyang. For both Russia and China, the North Korean threat weakens and distracts the United States without generating any exposure or risk for them. Machiavelli would have approved. There appears no reason why Pyongyang may moderate its behavior in the foreseeable future. So far, it has consistently succeeded in stringing out the six-party talks, playing for time and pushing on regardless at maximum speed with its nuclear and ballistic missile programs at the same time.

U.S., Israel to hold missile defense drill (Jerusalem Post, 04/14/09)

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1239633076339&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>

In the face of Iran's continued pursuit of nuclear capability, Israel and the United States will hold an unprecedented and massive exercise later this year to jointly test three different ballistic missile defense systems, The Jerusalem Post has learned. The exercise, called Juniper Cobra, will be held in Israel and will include the newly developed Arrow 2, as well as America's THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) and the ship-based Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense System. The test will likely include the launching of interceptors from these systems.

ICBM tested from Plesetek (BarentsObserver, 04/13/09)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/icbm-tested-from-plesetsk.4578928.html>

A Topol intercontinental ballistic missile was successfully test fired from the Plesetsk cosmodrome in Arkhangelsk Oblast. According to The Moscow Times the Russian Strategic Rockets Forces said the test was a part of checks needed to extend the service life of the Topol missiles for up to 22 years. The missile launched from Plesetsk hit the test target on the Kamchatka Peninsula in the Russian Far East. Russia plans 14 test launches of ballistic missiles this year, the commander of the Strategic Missile Forces said, according to sources.

North Korean launch a notable success amid failure (The Hindu, 04/12/09)

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/04/12/stories/2009041260481000.htm>

North Korea has failed yet again to put a satellite into orbit. Nevertheless, the recent launch of a three-stage rocket, which the North Koreans named Unha-2, appears to have provided the first successful flight of a first stage that Western analysts believe is bigger and more powerful than any the country has used before. If so, given North Korea's propensity to export its rocket technology, there are bound to be concerns that this rocket stage might turn up in other countries, including potentially Pakistan.

China continues investment in military capabilities, including space (UPI, 04/10/09)

<http://www.defensetech.org/archives/004792.html>

Since the early 1990s, Chinese military scholars have been warning of the need for China to prepare to defend against, and if necessary, conduct military operations in space. In late 2006 reports emerged of China's use of high-power ground-based lasers to "dazzle" U.S. surveillance satellites. Earlier this year, China launched the first successful intercept by its SC-19 direct-ascent anti-satellite (ASAT) system, derived from its KT-1 solid-fuel space-launch vehicle, with an interceptor stage whose development was likely aided by China's micro-satellite programs. A target FY-2 weather satellite was probably illuminated by large phased-array radar developed for tracking Shenzhou manned space capsules. A far less-noted potential co-orbital ASAT demonstration occurred on Sept. 27, 2008, when the Shenzhou-7 manned spacecraft, which had just launched a BX-1 nano-satellite, passed within 45 km. (28 mi.) of the International Space Station. Following the U.S. Navy's shoot down of an errant satellite on Feb. 21, 2008, and a Mar. 5, 2008, announcement that Russia would resume ASAT development, it is likely that China will continue ASAT testing. *Related article: [China expands its space program](#).*

Nuclear watchdog groups seeks to slow weapons development and research (Washington Post, 04/09/09)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/09/AR2009040900934.html>

Watchdog groups want the U.S. to reduce its nuclear weapons complex to just three sites as a step toward the nuclear arms-free world that President Barack Obama envisioned in a speech days ago in Prague. The groups have a proposal with key recommendations for the U.S. to stop adding new military capabilities to existing weapons, stop designing new weapons and reduce research. Instead, they should simply be maintained and repaired when necessary.

Japan must consider having early warning satellite (AP, 04/08/09)

http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=D97EME4G0&show_article=1

Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada said that Japan needs to consider deploying an early warning satellite into space to detect a launch of a ballistic missile or other objects that may be aimed at the country. Japan currently does not have an early warning satellite, which often indicates the first sign of a ballistic missile launch. When North Korea launched a rocket that passed over Japan, Tokyo learned about the launch from information provided by an early warning satellite operated by the U.S. military.

Energy/Transportation Security/Infrastructure

Sabotage knocks out phone service in California (SF Gate, 04/10/09)

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/04/10/MNP816VTE6.DTL>

Vandals cut ten fiber-optic cables at four locations in California. Residential and business customers quickly found that telephone service was perhaps more laced into their everyday needs than they thought. Suddenly they couldn't draw out money, send text messages, check e-mail or Web sites, call anyone for help, or even check on friends or relatives down the road. Several people had to be driven to hospitals because they were unable to summon ambulances. Many businesses lapsed into idleness for hours, without the ability to contact associates or customers. More than 50,000 landline customers lost service - some were residential, others were business lines that needed the connections for ATMs, Internet and bank card transactions. One line alone could affect hundreds of users. The full extent of the havoc might not be known for days, emergency officials said as they finished repairing the damage.

Japan seeks greater energy security (The Economist, 04/08/09)

http://www.economist.com/business/displaystory.cfm?story_id=13447453&fsrc=rss

When Energy Frontier, an enormous tanker, glided into Tokyo Bay from Sakhalin Island, she was not just carrying the first shipment of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from a problematic Russian venture, under a deal signed 15 years ago. She was also bearing the symbolic weight of Japan's aspirations to greater energy security. Lacking natural resources, Japan imports more than 95% of its energy. Almost all its oil and a quarter of its LNG come from the Middle East. To reach Japan, ships must travel for 20 days, passing near pirate-infested waters. Sakhalin, by contrast, is just three days away.

Announcements

To receive an EMP briefing

The Institute of the North and the Claremont Institute in Claremont, California support state legislators and emergency management groups by providing briefings on electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack scenarios and preparedness. If you would like your committee or organization to receive one of these briefings, please contact [Jeremy Thompson](#) by email or call 907.771.2446.

To receive a copy of *Missile Defense and the Role of the States*

In February 2007, the Institute of the North and the Claremont Institute published a report on *Missile Defense and the Role of the States*, a survey of Adjutants General on questions regarding missile defense and electromagnetic pulse. To receive a hard copy of the report, please contact

[Jeremy Thompson](#). You can also view the report online at:
<http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/download?id=304>.

To view the IWG report

The Institute of the North's Defense and Security program is a member of the Independent Working Group on Missile Defense, the Space Relationship, & the Twenty-First Century, a non-partisan group of defense experts who meet regularly to discuss issues and projects related to missile defense. To view the 2009 report online, please visit: <http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/download?id=564>

To submit material

We are always looking for well-written editorials on the impact of national security at the state and local level. If you would like to submit an editorial for publication in the Vanguard newsletter, please forward factual and relevant articles of 500-750 words in length to the [Institute](#).

The Vanguard online

To view past and current issues of the Vanguard newsletter online, please visit:
http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/content/security_and_defense_program.html.

Unsubscribe

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please email the [Institute](#) with the word "unsubscribe" in the message field.

About the program

The Security and Defense program at the Institute of the North conducts research and educates policymakers on strategic issues relating to the defense of the United States that particularly concern decision makers in Alaska and at the state and local level throughout the nation.

The Institute of the North, based in Anchorage, Alaska, is a non-profit educational and research organization founded in 1994 by former Secretary of the Interior and twice Governor of Alaska Walter J. Hickel, focusing on strategic and natural resource issues.

*The Institute of the North · 509 West Third Avenue, Suite 107 · Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907.771.2446 · Fax: 907.771.2466*

