



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 May 2004

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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Daily Overview

- Oakland Tribune Online reports top counterterrorism experts warn that San Francisco's Bay Area Rapid Transit and other mass transit systems need more than vigilance to defend against bombings. (See item [9](#))

Transportation Sector

9. *May 24, Oakland Tribune Online* — **Security experts warn BART to be vigilant. San Francisco's Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), and other mass transit systems need more than vigilance to defend against bombings, say top counterterrorism experts Brian Jenkins and Mike Herstik.** Acknowledging such critiques, the Department of Homeland Security issued last week its first national guidelines for commuter rail systems, which took effect Sunday. "There really isn't anything in there that we're not already doing," said Paul Overseier, BART's operations chief. But Brian Jenkins and Mike Herstik say much more is needed. Jenkins was a panelist on the 1996 Gore Commission on terrorism and author of numerous presidential white papers. Herstik advised the Israeli army, police and transit operators on their bomb-sniffing dog programs. Since the attack on the railroad in Spain, BART has come under fire for slow responses to unattended bags. **In one case, a bag was reported in San Francisco, but traveled through the critical underwater Tran-bay Tube and into downtown Oakland before BART police inspected it.** In another case, BART called the Alameda County bomb squad to a suspicious case at San Leandro station two hours after discovering it.

Source: http://www.oaklandtribune.com/Stories/0,1413,82~1865~2168611_00.html