

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL

TUCSON SECTOR BORDER INTELLIGENCE CENTER

TCA SAC@dhs.gov Main number (520) 519-7093

OFFICER SAFETY - ALERT - BOLO - INFORMATION ADVISORY

4/28/2010

Alert No: TCA-10-04-0009

## UPDATE

A Concerned Citizen

## Civilian Minuteman type group attempting to gain followers for an operation along Interstate 8 between Gila Bend and Casa Grande.

On April 28, 2010 at approximately 9:00 p.m., FOS Matthew Turner stationed at the Ajo Border Patrol Station contacted the Tucson Sector SAC to report an incident that happened on March 27, 2010 documented on the below IIR memo 10-AJO-IIR-03-38250.

*Analytical Comment*: The possibility exists that the below "concerned citizen" might be involved in the organizing of the group described in Alert TCA-10-04-0007, or that he might be recruited by the new organization.

## 10-AJO-IIR-03-38250:

On March 27, 2010, at approximately 1930 hours, the Ajo Station received a call from an individual by the name of Daniel Webster. Mr. Webster stated that he, and a group of concerned citizens, had spotted several vehicles loaded with undocumented aliens. One vehicle was south of milepost 135 on Interstate 8 and an additional two were south of milepost 124 on I-8.

Agents arrived at milepost 124 at approximately 2015 hours and made contact with the Arizona Department of Public Safety and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department. Agents conducted a thorough search of the area but were unable to locate the reported vehicles.

Agents arrived at milepost 135 at approximately 2030 hours. Agents located an abandoned vehicle and began tracking sign for a group of 20. The tracking operation was terminated at 2200 hours. BLM agents took possession of the abandoned vehicle.

According to Mr. Webster, he and his group of eight volunteers will be camping in the area through Monday morning. Their mission is strictly to observe and report criminal activity. Mr. Webster further stated the he is not affiliated with any civilian border group and only identifies himself as a concerned citizen.

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## Information Advisory Alert No: TCA-10-04-0009:

Information was received that an unknown group, A Concerned Citizen, has put out feelers for parties interested in shutting down a section of Interstate 8 by using their presence to deter illicit smuggling activity along Interstate 8. The request comes in support of Governor Jane Brewer's signing of SB1070 into law and at the opposition of the media's coverage of the protests in Phoenix. The information references the 30 mile stretch of interstate highway, between Gila Bend and Casa Grande as being a line and states "It's time to bring back the 'Minuteman Lines'". The intent is to bring attention to the area in hopes that it will bring the National Guard to the border.

The intended mission is to detect, observe, and report incidents to local law enforcement, which they give credit to for "getting it"; being active in the area and being very cooperative.

The information discusses the smuggling activity in that area and mentions that mile markers are being used as load points which are vulnerable to detection. The intent is to camp out at active load up points, thereby denying the area for use as a smuggling corridor. There is a comment about the danger associated and that the participants should be prepared to defend themselves.

*Analytical Comment*: After the disbanding of the Minutemen Civil Defense Corps (MCDC) and the Krentz homicide being touted as the work of a drug cartel, it is not surprising that another contingent of Minutemen types has come to life. The tone of this information is quite unlike that from the MCDC Locked and Loaded Operation. If this new operation happens, there could be potential for human rights violations and a possibility of violence between armed civilians and smugglers or with law enforcement.

If you encounter any similar activity in the Tucson Sector AOR or receive additional information, please call the Tucson Sector BIC at (520) 519-7093 or forward to the <u>TCA SAC@dhs.gov</u> mailbox. If any additional information is received it will be disseminated accordingly.

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