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(U) United States: Anti-Fascist Group Antifa Increasingly Violent

(U//FOUO) According to a Louisiana State Analytical & Fusion Exchange (LA-SAFE), on 06 MAY 17, Antifa protestors utilized a tactic called black bloc, in which protestors wear black clothing, scarves, bandanas, helmets, and other protective items designed to conceal their identity and provide them protection against harm. They can also be identified via the usage of red and black flags.



(U) Antifa members

(U//FOUO) Antifa protestors are credited with using violent methods to undermine peaceful protest and will instigate clashes with law enforcement. In past events, Antifa, attacked police with smoke bombs, road flares, and rocks. These incidents often begin peacefully but are infiltrated by Antifa, who then proceed to destroy property and wreak havoc within the crowds. Black bloc groups are often no larger than 50-75 people, and dissipate prior to law enforcement intervention.

(U//FOUO) Antifa generally use street-fighting weapons such as clubs, bottles, bats, and other blunt objects. The California State Threat Assessment Center has noted an escalation of force in the use of edged weapons, fireworks, and improvised explosives such as Molotov cocktails by Antifa groups. (Source: LA-SAFE SIN: LA-13000, 06 MAY 17)

(U) ARTIC Comment: According to open source reporting, on 05 SEP 17, two males allegedly part of a local "anarchist" group assaulted an Air Force (AF) officer on a motorcycle during a protest in Olympia Washington. The AF officer was reportedly targeted due to confederate flags attached to his motorcycle. Open source reports that the AF officer was sprayed in the face with mace and struck on the back with a baseball bat and a glass bottle filled with red paint. There is no indication however, that the AF officer was recognizable as a member of the DoD or targeted due to his military affiliation. While not specified in the reporting, the individuals who attacked the AF officer were likely members or supporters of Antifa. (Source: Open Source, 08 SEP 15)

(U//FOUO) The ARTIC is not aware of any threats from Antifa directed at the Army or DoD in general. However, Antifa is a confrontational group that attempts to instigate crowd violence, and as specified in the above reporting, uses various objects as weapons that can result in serious injury or property damage. Additionally, Antifa organizations, while not well organized, appear to be wide spread throughout the United States. As such, DoD personnel or assets could become collateral damage as a result of violence instigated by Antifa organizations or its members.

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From: (b) (7)(C)
To: (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: (U//FOUO) Situational Awareness: Criminal Activity Sometimes Associated with ANTIFA and ANTI-ANTIFA Gatherings
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 12:30:18 PM

From: (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 4:05 PM
Subject: (U//FOUO) Situational Awareness: Criminal Activity Sometimes Associated with ANTIFA and ANTI-ANTIFA Gatherings

(U//FOUO) Situational Awareness: Criminal Activity Sometimes Associated with ANTIFA and ANTI-ANTIFA Gatherings

(U//FOUO) The ARTIC is aware of scheduled nationwide protest scheduled to occur over the 4th of July weekend, many of which are scheduled to occur on 02 JUL 17. While the ARTIC is not aware of any protest scheduled to occur at US Army Installations, it is likely some scheduled protest routes may pass near or otherwise impact some US Army Recruiting Centers and other Stand Alone Facilities. There may also be impacts to US Army personnel traveling over the holiday weekend. While the right to protest is protected by the 1st Amendment to the US Constitution, criminal activity that may pose a force protection threat to US Army Service Members, US Army Employees, US Army Dependents and Facilities, has sometimes been associated with some protests involving ANTIFA and ANTI-ANTIFA groups.

(U//FOUO) According to open source, ANTI-FA is a network of left-wing anarchist group whose goal is to "smash fascism in all its forms," specifically sexism, racism, homophobia, government corruption, and islamophobia.

(U//FOUO) According to open source, ANTI-ANTIFA members are individuals and groups who are engaged in a political battle against ANTIFA, but who are not affiliated with racist nationalists.

(U//FOUO) The ARTIC encourages US Army Service Members, US Army Employees, and US Army Dependents to maintain situational awareness and avoid areas of the cities where protests are occurring if possible.

(U//FOUO) According to open source news media protests are planned for the following US cities:

- (U//FOUO) Gettysburg, PA
- (U//FOUO) Los Angeles, CA
- (U//FOUO) Denver, CO
- (U//FOUO) New York, NY
- (U//FOUO) Washington, DC

(U//FOUO) Based on available open source news media reporting, it is likely similar protests will occur in other metropolitan areas across the United States.

(U//FOUO) The ARTIC is aware of a large nationwide protest event scheduled to occur 02 JUL17. Additional protests may take place over the weekend.

(U//FOUO) Examples of criminal activity associated with some recent protests:

- (U//FOUO) Causing property damage to cars and buildings
- (U//FOUO) Instigating physical contact

- (U//FOUO) Throwing rocks, flares, or other objects
- (U//FOUO) Spray painting
- (U//FOUO) Shooting fireworks

US Army Threat Integration Center (ARTIC)

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