

Sent: Sun, 02 May 2010 16:59:18 -0400
From: "Brennan, John O." <john_o_brennan@who.eop.gov>
To: [REDACTED] Recos <recos@who.eop.gov>
Bcc: Recos <recos>, [REDACTED]
Subject: Latest on Times Square

P6/b(6)

· Vehicle: The VIN was tracked to an individual in [REDACTED] who has been interviewed this afternoon and indicated he sold the vehicle 3 days ago. Bureau obviously working this aggressively. Investigation is ongoing to identify and locate the individual who drove the vehicle into Times Square. Unclear whether the tags on the vehicle were stolen from a pick-up truck located at a junk yard in North Carolina, or whether the junk yard owner provided the tags unlawfully... NYPD stated at the press conference this afternoon that the tags were not reported stolen.

· Suspect: NYPD surveillance video coverage recorded vehicle driving in Times Square just minutes before the incident. No NYPD video of vehicle driver is known to exist, but there is the possibility of a tourist video that contains footage of the driver. NYPD continuing to check video feed from other cameras and from businesses that were closed over weekend and are being contacted now.

· Bomb: There were two devices in the vehicle, both of which included M-80 fireworks surrounded by gasoline and/or propane containers. One clock was set to detonate at 7pm, the other burned in the fire and FBI has not determined what time it was set for. FBI assesses the devices are similar to those used in the 2007 AQI-associated Glasgow Airport bombings. It's possible that a two stage device was planned, with 2nd device going off after first responders had arrived on scene, but too soon to tell.

· Target: FBI is continuing to look at whether Comedy Central was the potential target, though it is inconclusive at this time, FBI looking into other terrorist/homegrown groups (Revolution Muslim, Arabian Knightz, AQI associates, others) to determine possible involvement.

· Claim of Responsibility: NCTC looking into TTP claim of responsibility, and the date/time that the video was produced.