Anarchist Extremism Overview

• Past Characteristics of the Anarchist Movement
  – Highly dedicated to a specific cause / ideology
  – Individuals turning to criminal activity out of frustration
  – Fairly well-organized and proactive
  – Made up of educated individuals from various backgrounds, often students
Anarchist Extremism Overview

- Current Characteristics of the Movement
  - Not dedicated to a particular cause
  - Criminals seeking an ideology to justify their activities
  - Generally unorganized and reactive
  - Made up of younger, educated, middle to upper class individuals
Characteristics Continued

- Paranoid / security conscious
- Distrustful / resentful of authority figures
- Non-cooperative
Crossover Ideologies

- Individuals crossing over among ideologies, particularly:
  - Animal Rights Extremism
  - Environmental Extremism
Anarchist Extremist Tactics

- Variety of tactics
  - Generally simple in execution
  - Inexpensive to construct
  - Both “passive” civil disobedience and active or “offensive” attacks

G-20 Pittsburgh
Choice of Tactic

- Often based on willingness to face arrest
- Staged to gain maximum media attention
- Used to cause maximum amount of disruption to the target
- Staged to create image of "aggressive" law enforcement

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Typical Tactics in Anarchist Extremism
• Often the scene
often

instructions found on
the Internet
• Generally
• Will use
- Democratic and Republican National Convention
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 11/12-20, Hawaii
- Group of 8 Summit (G8) 5/26-27, France
- Group of 20 Summit (G20) 11/3-4, France
- International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Trade Organization (WTO), etc.
- May Day
• Create a political statement
• Generate media coverage for their cause
• Disrupt law enforcement activity

18 May 2010 firebombing of Royal Bank of Canada

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Communications

• Before and during the event
  – Utilize multiple forms
    • Radios, messengers, websites, email, SKYPE, fliers, posters, banners
  – Meeting Locations
    • College campuses, underground clubs, coffee houses/internet cafes
Known connections and extremists in the following countries:
• Trends
  – Interest in some U.S. anarchist communities in mirroring European anarchist activities
  – Interest in adapting / evolving tactics to avoid law enforcement scrutiny
  – Growing frustration in not achieving goals will likely lead to increasing activity
  – Experimentation with new tactics, weapons
Outlook

- Continued targeting of perceived symbols of capitalism, imperialism, and oppression

- Continued use and exploitation of communication technologies

- Anticipate increase in activity leading up to 2012 conventions
Federal Violations

- Title 18 USC 371; Criminal Conspiracy
- Title 18 USC 842(a)(1); Illegal Manufacturing of Explosives
- Title 18 USC 842(p) – Illegal Distribution of Information Relating to Explosives, Destructive Devices
- Title 18 USC 844(n); Conspiracy to Commit Arson
- Title 18 USC 1361; Depredation of Government Property
- Title 18 USC 1366; Damaging or Attempting to Damage an Energy Facility
- Title 18 USC 2332(a); Threatened Use of a Weapon of Mass Destruction
- Title 26 USC 5822; Illegal Manufacture of a Firearm
- Title 26 USC 5861; Possession of an Unregistered Firearm
- Title 26 USC 5861(d); Possession of an unregistered destructive de
Questions?