

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 05/22/2001

To: Counterterrorism

Attn: DTOU  
SSA [redacted]

Los Angeles

Attn: SSA [redacted]

[redacted]

Attn: SA [redacted]

From: Los Angeles

SMRA

Contact: SA [redacted]

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b7C

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #: 266D-LA-226745 (Pending) - 12

Title: UNSUBS;

[redacted]

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SANTA CRUZ DIRECT ACTION COALITION;  
GREENPEACE;  
GLOBAL NETWORK AGAINST WEAPONS  
AND NUCLEAR POWER IN SPACE;  
RUKUS;  
CATHOLIC WORKERS GROUP;  
VANDENBERG ACTION COALITION;  
AOT-DT-GRC

(K)  
or

Synopsis: Summary of case. Report of 05/19/2001 protest.  
Proposed development of [redacted] source.

Administrative: 05/17/2001 tel call [redacted] Special Agent  
(SA) [redacted] to Los Angeles SA [redacted]

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Details: The purpose of this communication is to summarize the  
case to date and propose further development of [redacted]  
informant.

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This case was opened to investigate criminal activity  
which the subjects have openly announced, on the Internet, in  
"teach-ins," and by other means, that they intend to employ in  
order to impede the advancement of the National Missile Defense  
Initiative (NMD). NMD is a developmental missile system intended  
to protect the interests of the United States in the event of a  
limited missile attack. Proponents argue that it will protect

12/21/01

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the United States from a missile attack, especially a nuclear missile attack. Opponents argue that the system is too expensive, won't work or may speed the nuclear arms race.

Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), California is located some 30 miles northwest of Santa Barbara, CA. VAFB is the hub of activity for missile test activities for the U.S. Air Force. All NMD target tests launch from VAFB with the interceptor missile launched from Kwajalein atoll.

The subject groups have proposed a variety of activities to disrupt or impede the launch of NMD missiles in the future. At the same time, the vast majority of group members intend to engage in legal protests which are protected under the First Amendment. The FBI has no interest in these protests.

The activities of interest involve acts which would impede a launch. Specifically, the subject groups have proposed trespassing onto VAFB and entering the "safety zone," thereby causing the launch to be aborted. The groups believe that such a delay would badly damage the credibility of the NMD program.

The methods of impeding the launch could be as simple as hiking on to the base or by using the Greenpeace ships to launch rubber boats into the safety zone. These methods pose a threat, but the countermeasures should be effective. One method that poses a serious threat that would be hard to counter (without injuring someone) would be to launch powered parachutes and hover over the missile silo. [REDACTED]

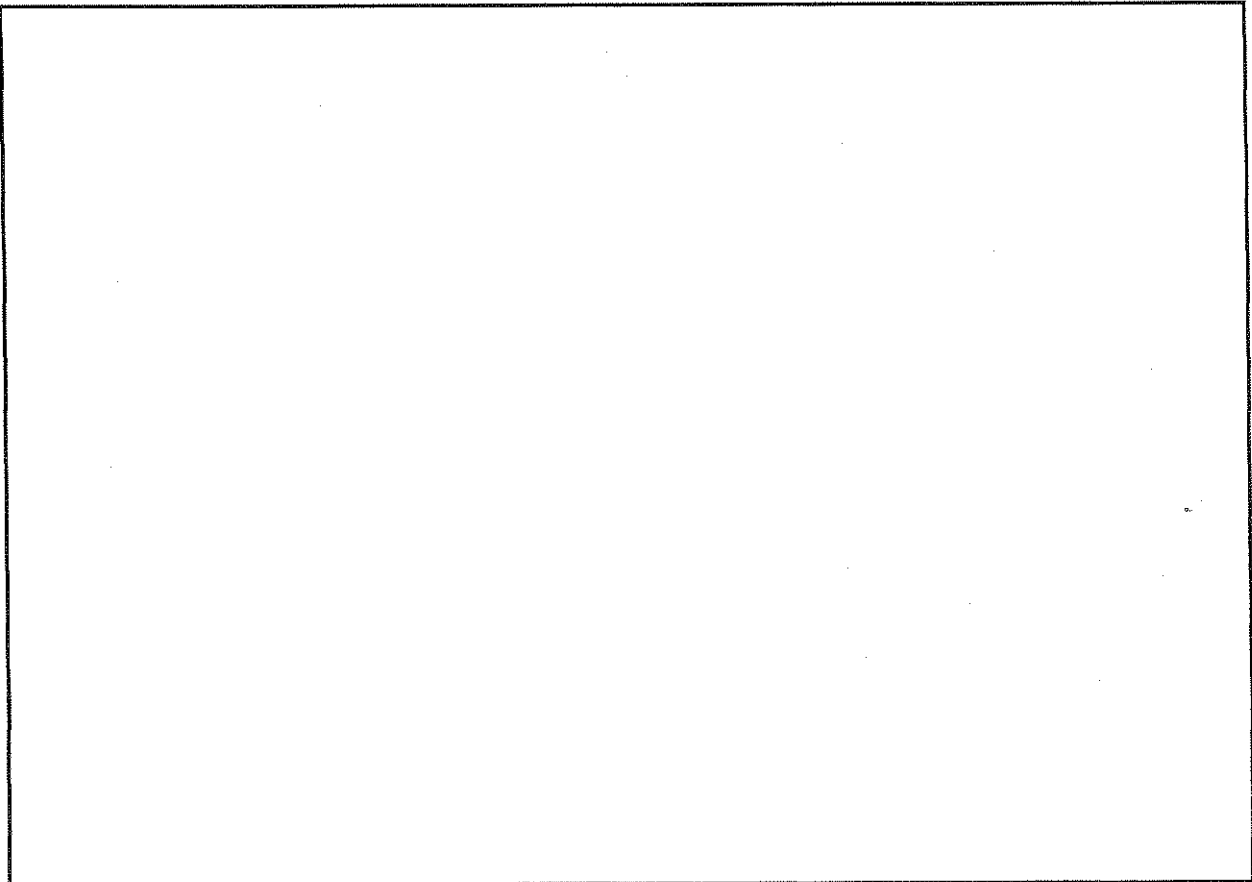
[REDACTED]

If NMD is impeded for even one day, it is estimated by the U.S. Air Force that the cost would be approximately \$1,000,000. In addition, these launches receive extensive publicity and a delay would cause serious damage to the public image of the NMD system.

On 05/19/2001, a protest was conducted at the front gate of VAFB. The number of protestors was estimated by the news media and VAFB officials at 225 and represented different groups with different agendas. 33 people were arrested on 05/19/2001 and 05/20/2001, all for walking onto VAFB. Two groups of trespassers were arrested. One was from Santa Cruz, CA, possibly the Santa Cruz Direct Action Coalition, and one group was the Catholic Workers Group from Los Angeles, CA. One person was believed to be from San Diego, CA and affiliated with a group called Rukus. Based on the author's overhears and conversations with protestors, the Catholic Workers advocated peace with a

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Christian and semi-communistic ideology, the Santa Cruz group advocated peace with an organic, save the earth ideology. Rukus appeared to have four members present, and advocated confrontation, possibly physical confrontation, in order to defeat the capitalist domination of America. The Vandenberg Action Coalition did not seem to advocate any violation of law, although their Internet site provided information about other groups, while stating the other groups intend to impede the launches.



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[REDACTED]  
(PROTECT). There is currently no reliable confirmation relating to what methods, if any, will be employed to impede this test.

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Trespassers have directly stated, and the subject groups have stated through Internet announcements, that they have the objective to impede a military operation of the United States. As such, Los Angeles will attempt to collect information in order to effectively counter this threat.