



G.A.I.N.

GANG ACTIVITY INFORMATION NETWORK



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Indiana

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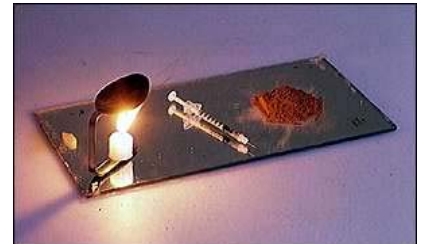
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POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

Gang Members Accused of Selling 'Max Pain' Heroin

Article published on CNN.com

6/22/2006 Chicago, IL | Federal prosecutors Wednesday charged more than three dozen members of a Chicago street gang with running a drug ring that sold crack cocaine, marijuana, heroin and the potentially lethal prescription painkiller fentanyl.



Fentanyl-laced heroin has been blamed for more than 200 overdose-related deaths across the eastern half of the country in recent months, at least 70 in the Chicago area.

But while much of the fentanyl seized in the investigation was packaged for individual use, none of the seized heroin was found to be mixed with fentanyl, authorities said. The legally produced painkiller is 80 times stronger than morphine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Gary Shapiro alleged that the Mickey Cobras gang marketed its drugs to take advantage of the deadly heroin's notoriety, selling products with names such as "Max Pain," "Lethal Injection," "Fear Factor," "Drop Dead" and "Final Call."

"They carry niche marketing to its extreme," Shapiro said. "They sell branded heroin." None of the defendants had been charged with the fentanyl deaths, he said.

In a series of raids Wednesday, agents seized more than 100 kilograms of heroin, five firearms, four vehicles and an undetermined amount of cash, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. More than 400 federal and local law enforcement officers were involved.

The criminal complaint charged 47 members and associates of the gang with conspiracy to possess and distribute heroin, crack cocaine, marijuana and fentanyl.

Full Story: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/LAW/06/21/bad.heroin.ap/index.html>

Heroin Just a Car Ride Away

Article published by The Times

05/09/2006 Porter County, IN | Need a heroin fix? Just hop on the expressway and, after fighting the Chicago construction traffic for an hour and a half, you'll exit and instantly see plenty of people dressed in bright white tennis shoes. The shoes signal they're drug dealers. They ignore the "no loitering" signs and congregate on the stoops of housing project entrances, or sit on milk crates on street corners and in alleys. Just hand over \$10 and you'll get a bag of heroin that is good for three or four hits. The dealers make sure their customers are safe during their brief visits. That, according to police in Porter County and Chicago, is exactly what hundreds of Porter County residents do each week.



"Right off the expressway is a good spot for these kids from Indiana," said Bill Subici, a Cook County police investigator. "It's the invasion of Indiana plates. You see them all over ... Too much money and too much time on their hands."

Two hot spots are State Street, between 21st and 27th; and King Drive, between 31st and 38th. A person can see U.S. Cellular Field, the home of the Chicago White Sox, from where some dealers stand. Subici said the dealers start their day early in the morning, when their clients are on their way to work or school. They continue working the streets heavily until about 11 p.m., and everything is pretty much dead by 2 a.m.

Alex Rodriguez, a retired Drug Enforcement Administration agent who now is an Ogden Dunes police officer, said most of the heroin being dealt in this region originates in Colombia and is distributed by Mexicans. Some of the Chicago gangs, however, get their stuff from southeast Asia.

Full Story:

http://www.thetimesonline.com/articles/2006/06/26/news/top_news/40e90837102f5d41862571980007a9ad.txt



Graffiti Crew Cleans up on West Side

Article published by The South Bend Tribune

06/23/2006 South Bend, IN | Deckerd out in bright lime-green shirts, the graffiti crew is on the job. Wielding their brushes up and down, stroke after stroke, they carefully cover the gang symbols on the wall.

"Paint over the black," team leader Steven Bethel Jr. said as he helped crew mates Christopher Johnson, 19, and LeVelle Sanders, 20, all high school graduates. They were putting gray primer over spray-painted words on the cinder block bridge wall at Meade Street where it dead-ends.

While many of their friends continue looking for a job, these three young men are on the move in Bethel's white Blazer as they tackle any kind of graffiti on houses, garages, stores and other South Bend buildings.



"I love my job," said Bethel, 19. "It feels great because I feel like we're doing something to clean up our community."

The crew works for the city's Weed and Seed program. This is a federally sponsored community-based program whose purpose is to "weed out" negatives and "seed in" positive influences in local neighborhoods.

Full Story:

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060623/News01/606230321&SearchID=73249146343134>

New Report Says Chicago Street Gangsters Moving to 'Burbs'

Article published by The Associated Press

06/19/2006 Chicago, IL | Another crowd has apparently begun escaping the pressures of big city life by beating a well-worn path to the suburbs: Gangs.

That's one of the findings of a report released Monday by the Chicago Crime Commission in its first major study of area gangs in more than 10 years.

Chicago police have become skilled at disrupting gangland activity, the report says, so some gang members are moving to the suburbs, where authorities often don't have the manpower or experience to deal with them.



"People in the suburbs can no longer view gangs as an inner-city problem," said Jim Wagner, the crime commission's president and one of the editors of the 272-page report. "It's a problem they can no longer ignore."

The migration, which became more noticeable starting around five years ago, has coincided with gang involvement in new areas of crime, including real estate fraud and identity theft, according to the report.

Among the report's findings is that there are up to 100 street gangs with as many as 125,000 combined members in and around Chicago. Ten to 20 of the gangs, including the powerful Gangster Disciples, the Latin Kings and the Vice Lords, are sophisticated, well-organized entities, it says.

The document, titled "The Gang Book," is also meant to serve as a guide for suburban police, parents and businesses who may know little to nothing about gangs or how to identify gang members.

It includes photographs of gang hand signs and tattoos, as well as block-by-block maps showing which gangs control what parts of the Chicago area. There's also an explanation of gang slang: "cabbage," according to a lengthy glossary, means cash money, and "a kite in the wind" is a letter sent to a prisoner.

Full Story:

<http://www.belleville.com/mld/belleville/news/state/14850909.htm>

Related Story: Suburbs Pool Data as Gangs Expand

As evidence mounts that rival gangs are working together to expand drug sales outside of Chicago, suburban police departments are teaming up to address the problem.

Towns like Addison, West Chicago and Riverdale that built gang databases two decades ago and became information clearinghouses for other suburbs are less of an oddity now. In recent years, according to police departments, more information is being collected on suspected gang members who are living and operating in the suburbs.

Thirty-one of the 81 suburbs surveyed by the not-for-profit Chicago Crime Commission said gang-related crime has increased over the last three years, according to a report released Monday. Law enforcement officials welcomed the extensive report--a roadmap to gangs in Illinois with the names of alleged gang leaders, where the gangs operate and their illegal activities--yet no one seemed surprised by the numbers.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/nearwest/chi-0606200264jun20.1.4588661.story?coll=chi-newslocalnearwest-hed&ctrack=1&cset=true>

Police Arrest 14 Gang Members, Search for Three More

Article published by www.themilwaukeechannel.com

06/08/2006 Chicago, IL | Milwaukee police have dealt a major blow to a gang they said has been dealing drugs for years and is responsible for more than a dozen shootings. More than one dozen people are under arrest already, and police are still looking for more.

The vice squad has been working the neighborhood near 16th Street and North Avenue for four years, putting the case together against the so-called 16 Deep gang.

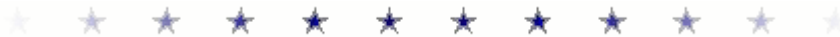
Residents said a calm has settled over the neighborhood since the arrests, but they can only hope it will last. In the last couple of weeks, police have arrested 14 suspects and are still seeking three more. All 17 have already been charged with drug conspiracy.



"They were the people committing a disproportionate amount of the criminal activity. Taking out those major players will definitely make a difference," Milwaukee police Capt. James Harpole said. Residents of this neighborhood -- thick with families -- told 12 News reporter Nick Bohr that the arrests have already made a huge difference, but they are pleading for police to maintain a major presence there to keep the violence out. "It's quiet now. It's quieter than I've ever seen it, and I been over here two years. And I'm very pleased with that. My kids can come outside where I didn't let them come out at all," resident Vickie Clarke said. "It's real quiet now. Everybody's been gone. You don't hear shooting no more. It's different," resident Asia McMillin said.

While making the arrests, they recovered cocaine, marijuana, \$30,000 in cash and 16 guns. The suspected gang members are all charged with conspiracy to distribute drugs. If convicted, each suspect could face up to 40 years in prison.

Full Story: <http://www.themilwaukeechannel.com/news/9344267/detail.html#>



FBI Offers \$10,000 in Search for Chicago Man

Article published by the Times



05/24/2006 Chicago, IL | A reward of up to \$10,000 is being offered for information about the location and arrest of Donnell Jehan, 38, whose last known address was 6522 S. Ashland Ave. in Chicago, according to the FBI's Chicago office. Jehan has been the subject of a nationwide manhunt since he was charged in May 2004, along with 46 other known and suspected gang members, with conspiracy to possess and distribute controlled substances, according to officials. He was one of three defendants in the investigation, which targeted the Black Disciples street gang, who avoided arrest at the time the charges were filed, according to the FBI.

He is 6 feet 3 inches, black and 250 pounds, with black hair, brown eyes, a slight beard and mustache, officials say. He uses the alias Darnel Clark, and also goes by the street name "Scandalous" and "Scan." He was last seen driving a 2002 Cadillac Escalade with Illinois license plate number J325569. Jehan is known to frequent Chicago's southeast side and the south suburbs in and around South Holland.

Anyone with information can call the Chicago FBI at (312) 421-6700.

Gang Activity Cited for Jump in U.S. Homicides

Article published by the Washington Post

06/12/2006 Washington, DC | The nation's violent-crime rate increased in 2005 for the first time in five years, the FBI said Monday in a report that reflected in part what crime analysts say is a resurgence in gang activity, particularly in the Midwest.

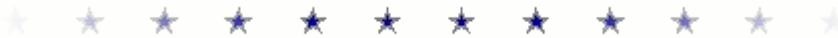
Of the four crime categories that make up the FBI's violent-crime index — murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault — only rape declined in the national figures.

In some cities, the increase in violence has led to crime rates that are in line with those posted in the years before the historically low rates that began in the mid-1990s.

The reported jump in homicides — nearly 5% nationwide — was the largest annual increase in the past 15 years. Some of the biggest increases were in Milwaukee, Oklahoma City, Omaha, St. Louis and other Midwestern cities.

Read the Report: [Full data on spike](#)

Full Story: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-06-12-fbi-violent-crime_x.htm?csp=34&POE=click-refer



ICE Agents Arrest 2,179 Illegals

Article published by the Washington Times

06/15/2006 Washington, DC | U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents have arrested 2,179 illegal aliens, including gang members and sexual predators, as part of a three-week nationwide interior immigration enforcement operation.

Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Julie L. Myers, who heads ICE, said yesterday about half of those arrested in Operation Return to Sender had criminal records for crimes ranging from sexual assault of a minor to assault with a deadly weapon.



Mrs. Myers said 140 were illegal aliens with convictions for sexual offenses against children, 367 were members or associates of violent street gangs, including Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), and 640 were fugitive aliens who had been issued final orders of removal by an immigration judge but failed to comply.

Many of the illegals, she said, had prior arrests in this country. About 800 of those arrested in the operation have been deported. More than 700 of the arrests were made during sweeping raids in California, with 38 taken into custody in the District, Maryland and Virginia.

Full Story: <http://washingtontimes.com/national/20060614-115006-1275r.htm>

Related Stories: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/US/06/14/immigration.arrests.ap/index.html>
<http://www.dfw.com/mld/dfw/14823681.htm>

Aryan Gang Thrives in Prisons, Motto Extends to Streets Via Ex-Convicts

Article published by the Beaumont Enterprise

06/15/2006 Beaumont, TX | In light of the recent arrest of 10 Aryan Brotherhood members and associates in connection with a burglary and murder, police throughout South and Southeast Texas say they are keeping close tabs on members of the gang.



Three Aryan Brotherhood members from Baytown were arrested and charged this month with capital murder in the random killing of a 49-year-old Baytown man who was abducted from a Wal-Mart parking lot, taken to a remote location in Liberty County and stabbed to death. The killers wanted his 1988 Chevy pickup truck for parts, police said. A Beaumont man is among several more gang members arrested in the criminal events surrounding that killing.

Although the recent crime spree landed almost a dozen people linked to the Aryan Brotherhood in jail, officials say the gang still has a strong presence in the Golden Triangle and throughout Texas.

Mark Potok, who monitors and investigates hate groups for the Southern Poverty Law Center, said the Aryan Brotherhood's motto is "Kill to get in, die to get out." He said the group's members are racist, but their primary focus is criminal enterprise.

AB is very active in the production and distribution of drugs, especially methamphetamine, he said. But members commit other types of crime, too, he said, including theft, assault and murder. "They are incredibly violent," he said. "Some of them will just as soon kill you as look at you."

The Aryan Brotherhood began to form in the late 1950s in a California prison in San Quentin when white inmates decided that they needed a powerful gang to protect them from the black and Mexican prison gangs, according to FBI documents. In 1967, the name Aryan Brotherhood was adopted. While the Aryan Brotherhood thrives in prisons around the country, experts say members remain active once they are released.



"It is a hard fact that most of the AB will be paroled or discharged at some future date, and in view of members' lifelong commitments, it would be naïve to think he would not remain in contact with his brothers," according to a 1982 FBI report released to the public through a Freedom of Information Request.

"The rule of thumb is that once on the streets, one must take care of his brothers that are still inside. The penalty for failure to do so is death upon the members' return to the prison system," the FBI report states. These duties include supplying jailed members with drugs and making hits on the street as commanded by members.

Full Story:

http://www.southeasttexaslive.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=16805222&BRD=2287&PAG=461&dept_id=512588&rft=6

Related Story: 'Best of the Worst' Testify at Aryan Brotherhood Trial

Convicted murderers, gang members and jailhouse informants have paraded past jurors for nearly four months in the U.S. government's racketeering case against the notorious Aryan Brotherhood prison gang. Now, with the trial about to enter its final weeks, the jury will soon have to decide who to believe: the government, whose case rests on the testimony of admitted killers, or attorneys for the white supremacists accused of plotting and ordering many of those murders from behind bars.

<http://www.cnn.com/2006/LAW/06/27/aryan.brotherhood.ap/index.html>

Mexican Mafia Prison Gang Members Indicted for Racketeering

Article published by the San Jose Mercury News

06/15/2006 San Diego, CA | A probe targeting Hispanic street gangs with ties to the Mexican Mafia prison gang resulted in 36 people being charged in federal indictments that were unsealed Friday.

Authorities said the Mexican Mafia ran organized crime from prison, ordered murders, dealt drugs and demanded money from street gangs in return for protection.

Charges in the indictment include the murders of a San Diego man shot at close range last year and a prison inmate in Susanville in 2002.

Leading the conspiracy, according to court papers, was Raul Leon, 41, a Mexican Mafia leader imprisoned at Pelican Bay, the high-security prison 300 miles north of San Francisco.

Leon was imprisoned for life in a murder case as a teenager and assaulted a San Quentin prison guard with a self-made knife, or a shank, in 1986.

Federal prosecutors are using anti-racketeering laws to go after 22 members, associates and affiliates of the prison gang. An additional 14 people were indicted on drug conspiracy charges, but not racketeering.

Of those indicted, 16 were already in prison, and federal agents and local law enforcement officers arrested all but about four or five of the others Friday, officials said.

The case marks the first time authorities have used organized crime provisions of federal law to go after the Mexican Mafia in San Diego. A similar case in Los Angeles led to 39 convictions.

Full Story: http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking_news/14838303.htm



Teen Gangs Find Voice on Web

Article published by the Dallas Morning News

06/01/2006 Dallas, TX | Teen gang members and wannabes are finding a platform in cyberspace to brag, bully and blog about their exploits.

Social networking sites feature Dallas-area youths dressed up gangster-style and flashing gang signs, holding guns and knives, getting tattooed or partying with marijuana. Common images include pit bulls, gang pledges and rivals' colored flags on fire.

Many of the Web postings come from kids who merely want to imitate the gangster image, which is not illegal, investigators say. But they add that they have to take the sites seriously because some of the postings come from serious gang members and many of the "wannabes" can become real dangers.

Gang-related postings come from teens all over, with screen names such as "oakcliff-crip" in Dallas and "bloodthuglife213" in Grand Prairie. The sites include MySpace and MiGente.com as well as a new site, Bebo.com.



Full Story: http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/city/irving/stories/DN-gangsonline_01met.ART.North.Edition.1.1d9dba0f.html

Mexico's Top Cop: Gangs Create Perception of Insecurity

Article published by CNN

06/19/2006 Mexico City, Mexico | Mexico's top police official said Monday that homicides nationwide dropped nearly 18 percent from 2000 to 2005, and that things are improving in Nuevo Laredo, a northern border city plagued by murder and drug-related mayhem.

But Public Safety Secretary Eduardo Medina (pictured right) acknowledged that many Mexicans continue to feel unsafe.

"On a national level, from 2000 to 2005, we have seen a reduction of 17.6 percent in homicides," Medina told a news conference at the presidential residence in the Mexican capital.



"As a society, however, we see the so-called executions, usually between different gangs of organized crime, and that creates a perception of uncertainty and insecurity -- a sensation that things are out of control," he said.

Few places have been more scarred by killings and shootouts between police and suspected drug smugglers than Nuevo Laredo, a city of 340,000 across the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas.

But although President Vicente Fox sent soldiers and federal agents there to restore order last summer, slayings have increased in the city, which is in the midst of a war between rival drug gangs fighting for lucrative smuggling routes into the United States.

So far this year, 126 people have been killed, compared with 55 homicides from January through June 2005.

Full Story: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/americas/06/19/mexico.violence.ap/index.html>



Brazil Police Break Up Gang Plot; 13 Killed

Article published by CNN

05/01/2006 San Paulo, Brazil | Police killed 13 suspected gang members in shootouts early Monday after authorities foiled a plot to launch a new wave of attacks against officers on the fringes of Brazil's largest city, officials said.

Ten suspected members of the First Capital Command gang were shot dead in an exchange of gunfire with police in the suburb of Sao Bernardo do Campo, and three were killed in the Diadema suburb, said state police spokesman Otavio David.



The killings came just over a month after the gang's imprisoned leaders allegedly ordered attacks against police across the city and Sao Paulo state, initiating a weeklong wave of violence that killed nearly 200 police, prison guards, suspected criminals and jail inmates.

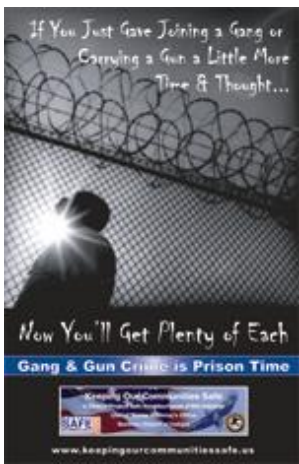
No police officers were killed in the fresh attacks, David said. Police took seven people into custody, all suspected members of the gang. They also seized 15 heavy caliber firearms.

Last month's attacks terrified Sao Paulo, prompting businesses to shut down and people to pull their children from school after suspected gang members torched scores of buses and attacked other symbols of authority across South America's largest city.

Full Story: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/americas/06/26/brazil.attacks.ap/index.html>

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Gang Resource Cards and Awareness Poster Series



The U.S. Attorney's Office has released a series of law enforcement reference cards pertaining to gang awareness and identification. The cards include a law enforcement sensitive gang identifier card, a parent's reference card and a Spanish version of the parent's reference card. The gang identifier card includes information on various gangs found in the Northern District along with graffiti, colors and symbols relating to each gang. The parent's cards contain warning signs of gang involvement and tips for curbing the chances of their youth joining a gang. These are available in both English and Spanish text as mentioned before.

The poster series features four scenarios outlining the repercussions of gang and gun violence. They are ideal for schools and community centers as an awareness reminder that crime has consequences. Both the posters and resource cards can be ordered by contacting the LECC program (information below).



Check them out at: <http://www.keepingourcommunitiesafe.us/gangs.htm>

From the Editors ★

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.
We are always trying to improve the quality and effectiveness of our products

If you have any comments, suggestions or articles that can be used in the "G.A.I.N." Newsletter please send them to:

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