



Top Stories

Man alleged to be former US prisoner faces 21 charges in Gambia

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UK nears US in cyber-crime, ahead of Nigeria, Romania

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Report was released in April by the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), a joint operation between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National White Collar Crime Center.

Olympic torch faces protests in San Francisco



The Olympic torch faced protests in San Francisco, much as it did

Credit: HighTechDad (Flickr) CC-BY 2.0

Top Stories

in London and Paris. Officials altered the route to prevent major incidents.

Death of 4000th U.S. soldier in Iraq shines spotlight on gays in the military

The January occasion of the death of the 4,000th member of the United States military in the Iraq War brought renewed focus on the military's "Don't ask, don't tell" (DADT) policy towards LGBT service members. US Army Major Alan Rogers was the first known LGBT soldier to die in combat in Iraq. He was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.



DoD photo of Rogers

Wikipedia Current Events

The European Parliament passes a resolution in favor of a boycott of the opening ceremonies of the Beijing Olympiad.

- IOC president Jacques Rogge calls for China to respect its commitment to improve human rights ahead of the Beijing Games.
- The Olympic torch arrives in Buenos Aires for the Olympic torch relay under heavy security.
- A suicide car bomber attacks a NATO convoy in Kandahar, resulting in the death of eight citizens.

Wikipedia Current Events

•Nepal prepares for an election that will decide the new Constituent Assembly, tasked with rewriting the constitution. The fate of the monarchy is also at stake.

Israel undergoes major emergency drill

Israel has tested its readiness for a state of war and emergency by testing its emergency services and shelters on a national scale.

The drill is to be analyzed in order to determine the elements which need to be corrected and fixed, and Israel's emergency readiness is to be assessed.

Israeli school children were told to hide under their school tables as part of the drill, which officials claimed to be the biggest drill ever in Israeli history.

Syria has claimed, in return, that the drill is intended as a battle readiness exercise and claims that Israel is preparing for war.

Automobile, motorcycle, and electronic industries center at TWTC & TWTC Nangang

2008 Taipei International Auto Parts & Accessories Show (2008 Taipei AMPA), a trade show for the automotive industry, located at Taipei World Trade Center Nangang Exhibition Hall (TWTC Nangang), opened yesterday and will continue until this Saturday April 12 with two concurrent trade shows for motorcycle and

electronic industries at Taipei World Trade Center named Taipei International Automobile Electronics Show (AutoTronics Taipei) & Taiwan International Motorcycle Industry Show (Motorcycle Taiwan).

"We [the TAITRA and the automobile industry] ever met a damn difficult problem on show space of this show, because in the past years, there were only three exhibition halls at TWTC (Hall 1, 2, 3), even though we [the TAITRA] do several attempts on scale expansions, still, there's no enough space for the automobile industry. Finally, After confirmation of its construction of TWTC Nangang, we decided to enroll this show into TWTC Nangang. With 937 companies participating including foreign participants from United Kingdom, Italy, France, Japan, United States, India, Malaysia, Korea, and China, this show will bring on internationalization as the Taipei Cycle and TaiSPO ever concurrently showcased in March." —Yung-chuan Chao, President of Taiwan External Trade Development Council

"This industry is an export-oriented market in Taiwan. According to some statistics, its production value reached NT \$153.9 billion dollars, and its export value reached USD\$471 million dollars, those facts showcased several growths on its [automobile] industry. With several OBM's get certified on innovative products, the brand of "Made in Taiwan" was progressively steady. This echoed our show slogan - "Without Taiwan, You Don't Get Parts!" I hope the automobile industry in Taiwan can play a great role in the world with participants' hard works." —Fadah Hsieh, Vice

Minister of Economic Affairs of the Republic of China.

"This year of Motorcycle Taiwan has some differences especially on the 5th-cycle standard pavilion because the environment issue is progressively focused by the automobile industry in the world. We [the TAITRA] thanked several supports by world-class companies YAMAHA to pay more attentions on this pavilion. I think this issue should be more discussed by professionals from academic units, industry, and governments not only in Taiwan." —Donald W. Lu, Vice President of TAITRA.

The three main shows in different venues, highlighting key issues like the environment, energy-efficiency, and industry transformations. TAITRA held "AutoTronics Forum" and "Taiwan Automotive International Forum & Exhibition" in hopes of forecasting the future of the electronic and automobile industries. Yamaha Corporation put on the "'Fi' 5th-Stage Emission Standard Pavilion" to showcase the research achievement and solutions for the future standard of fifth-cycle.

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The defendant uses a variety of different names including Christopher Badjie, Christopher Bah, Sulayman Badjie, Joseph Moneke, Bantou Coli and Gerard Charles Hendrik Van Derwatt. The

Point, a Gambian newspaper, claims that his real name is Christopher Badgie.

One of the charges against the defendant is relating to the alleged defrauding of a woman in Windsor, United Kingdom. It has been claimed that she was tricked into paying GBP650,000 with the belief that she would receive diamonds in return.

Another charge against the defendant says that he was unlawfully possessing a Gambian passport and identity card.

The defendant has been granted bail for the court case, which continued yesterday.

UK nears US in cyber-crime, ahead of Nigeria, Romania

The United Kingdom is listed second in a report on global cyber-crime statistics, behind the United States and ahead of cyber-crime "hotspots" Nigeria and Romania. The 2007 Internet Crime Report was released in April by the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), a joint operation between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National White Collar Crime Center.

Americans reported losses of US \$240 million from global cyber-crime in 2007, a \$40 million increase from 2006. The Internet Crime Complaint Center received 206,884 complaints of online fraud in 2007, a decrease from the previous year's 207,492 complaints.

FBI special agent John Hambrick, in charge of the IC3 unit, told the Agence France-Presse "We're seeing more schemes involving bigger ticket items, get-rich-quick and work-at-home schemes that involve higher dollar losses". As

the report only includes figures from crimes reported to law enforcement, it is likely that real crime numbers were higher.

"We're seeing more schemes involving bigger ticket items, get-rich-quick and work-at-home schemes that involve higher dollar losses" —John Hambrick, FBI special agent

FBI Cyber Division Assistant Director James E. Finch commented on the report: "The Internet presents a wealth of opportunity for would be criminals to prey on unsuspecting victims, and this report shows how extensive these types of crime have become ... What this report does not show is how often this type of activity goes unreported. Filing a complaint through IC3 is the best way to alert law enforcement authorities of Internet crime."

In response to the report's release, the information technology consultancy Global Secure Systems (GSS) warned that the United Kingdom is becoming a hotbed of internet crime. According to the report, the UK accounts for 15.3 per cent of online crime from US crime reports. "This is significantly ahead of other cyber-crime hotspots such as Nigeria (5.7 per cent) and Romania (1.5 per cent)," said David Hobson, managing director of GSS, in an interview with vnunet.com.

"The scammer tries to prey on victims who are kind of in tune with what's going on in the world. The scam changes, but ultimately they're preying on the good will of people." —Cathy Milhoan, FBI spokeswoman

The 2007 Internet Crime Report

cites the top ten countries by amount of perpetrators of online crime. In descending order, the top ten list includes the United States, the United Kingdom, Nigeria, Canada, Romania, Italy, Spain, South Africa, Russia, and Ghana. Scammers living within the United States most often lived in California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas. Men lost more money to online fraud than women in 2007, and also accounted for 75 percent of cyber-crime perpetrators.

FBI spokeswoman Cathy Milhoan told CIO Today that online scammers attempt to take advantage of the good will of individuals, asking for money for purported charities during crises. "The scammer tries to prey on victims who are kind of in tune with what's going on in the world. The scam changes, but ultimately they're preying on the good will of people," said Milhoan.

The most widely reported complaint was Internet auction fraud at 35.7 per cent of referred crime complaints. Other online criminal activities cited in the report include non-delivery of purchases and credit/debit card fraud, computer intrusions, spam/unsolicited e-mail, and child pornography. The report also seeks to raise awareness of other types of cyber-crimes, and describes steps individuals can take both to prevent internet crime, and to report it if they have been victimized.

Today in History

1241 – Mongol invasion of Europe: Mongols led by Batu Khan and Subutai crushed the Hungarian army of King Béla IV at the Battle of Mohi near the Sajó River in Hungary.

1713 – The main agreements of

the Treaty of Utrecht were signed in the Dutch city of Utrecht, helping to end the War of the Spanish Succession.

1888 – The Concertgebouw concert hall in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, was inaugurated.
1945 – World War II: American forces liberated the Buchenwald concentration camp near Weimar, Germany.

1979 – Ugandan-Tanzanian War: The Uganda National Liberation Army and Tanzanian forces captured Kampala, forcing Ugandan President Idi Amin to flee.

2002 – In a coup attempt, members of the Venezuelan military detained President Hugo Chávez and demanded his resignation.

April 11 is Juan Santamaría Day in Costa Rica.

Quote of the Day

When we lose the right to be different, we lose the privilege to be free. ~ Charles Evans Hughes

Word of the Day

shoehorn *v*

- To exert great effort to insert or include something; to insert by force or extreme measures.

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