

**CIAC****Colorado Information
Analysis Center**

Department of Public Safety

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SITUATIONAL AWARENESS BULLETIN

(U//FOUO) Opportunistic Domestic Extremists Threaten to use Ongoing Protests to Further Ideological and Political Goals

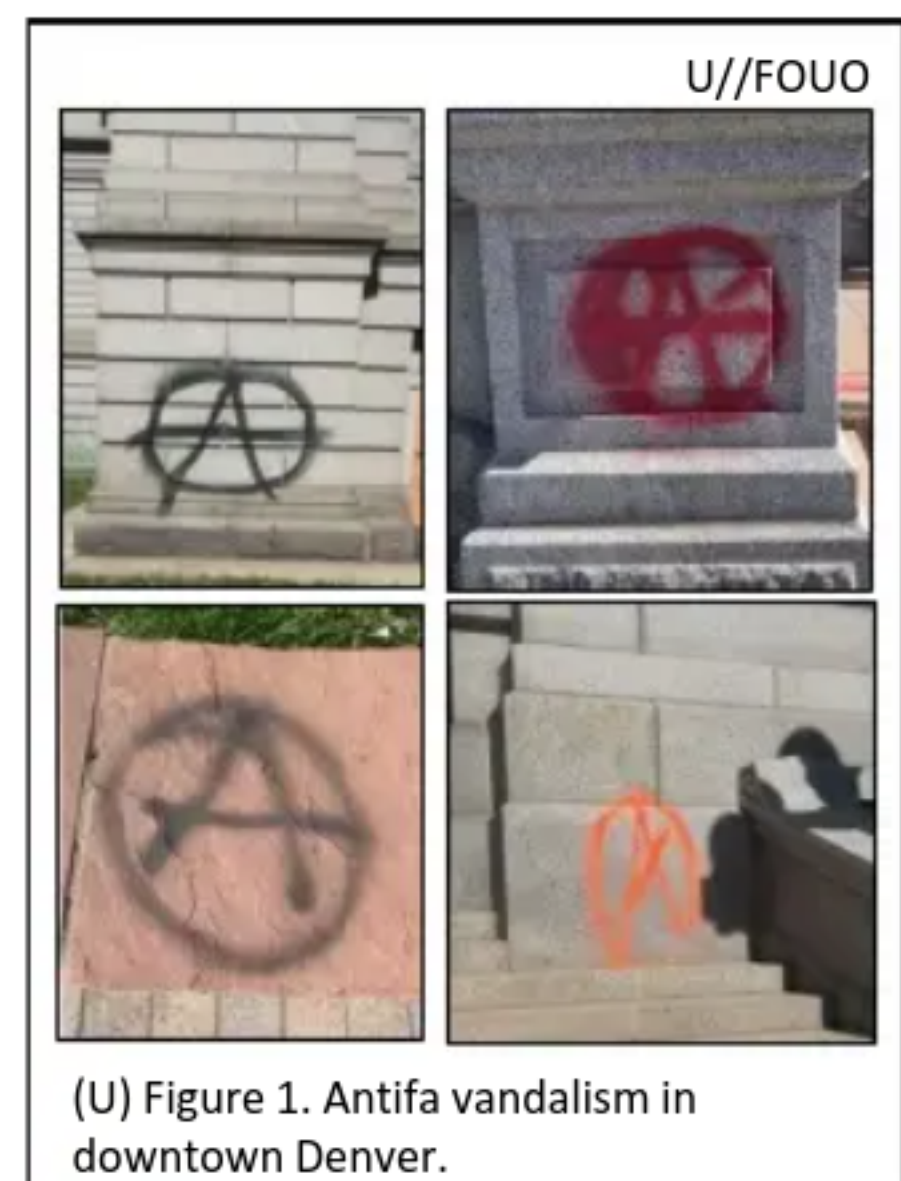
(U//FOUO) Scope: The Colorado Information Analysis Center (CIAC) has prepared this Situational Awareness Bulletin to provide law enforcement and public safety officials with information regarding tactics used and threats made by far-left and far-right domestic extremist groups and individuals regarding the Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests.

(U//FOUO) Groups and individuals across the domestic extremist ideological spectrum have shown an active interest in the current national unrest to advance their goals and incite further violence. Although these groups harbor opposing ideologies, both far-left and far-right extremists use similar tactics that often includes violence, destruction, and attacks against law enforcement. Participation in recent protests by these groups have transformed peaceful, lawful protests, into violent confrontations.

(U) Anti-government Extremists

(U//FOUO) Anti-government/anti-authoritarian violent extremists include individuals or groups whose violence or threat of violence is motivated by a perceived government injustice or government illegitimacy, including sovereign citizen extremists, anarchist extremists, and militia extremists.¹ Recent threats and attacks by anti-government extremists underline the threat they pose to otherwise peaceful events:

- (U) On 31 May 2020, the Revolutionary Abolitionist Movement (RAM) released a "Call for International Solidarity," which was shared by various anarchist blogs. The message referred to police as "pigs" and called for all supporters to use antagonistic actions and flood the streets with public demonstrations. RAM signed the message with "All power to the black insurgency! Storm their vulnerable bastions of power! Revolution now and always!"²
- (U//FOUO) During the 29-31 May 2020 protests in downtown Denver, Colorado, far-left anarchist individuals vandalized various buildings and structures, including the Capitol, with a common anarchist symbol, an encircled "A" (Figure 1).³
- (U) On 29 May 2020, the Denver Police Department seized several military-style assault rifles from a vehicle occupied by a group of self-identified anti-government individuals, who call



(U) Figure 1. Antifa vandalism in downtown Denver.

themselves "Boogaloo Bois,"^a near a downtown Denver, Colorado protest. One of the individuals was allegedly wearing a military-style plate-carrier vest, which allows the addition of ballistic protection.⁴

- (U) On 27 May 2020, a far-right militia member posted to a blog suggesting seven methods to sabotage police vehicles during the protests, including: putting insulating foam sealant into tailpipes, breaking windows, using ferric chloride or glass etching cream to obstruct visibility through windshields, and removing lug nuts.⁵

(U) White Supremacist Extremists (WSEs)

(U//FOUO) Broadly, WSEs are individuals or groups who encourage or engage in violent and/or criminal acts to support the belief that Caucasians are superior to all other races, including white nationalist extremists, white separatist extremists, KKK, neo-Nazi extremists, alt-right extremists, and other white racially violent groups.⁶ WSEs have vigorously threatening violence toward recent protests:

- (U//FOUO) On 02 June 2020, a user on a National Socialist Movement (NSM) Telegram channel posted an image of various weapons and told members he was getting ready on the East Coast, after previously posting a video of protesters calling them "savages" (Figure 2).⁷
- (U//FOUO) On 01 June 2020, several members of a neo-Nazi Telegram channel discussed dressing up as Antifa to infiltrate the group during protests.⁸
- (U//FOUO) On 31 May 2020, the neo-Nazi group, Terrorwave Refined (TR), posted on their Telegram channel, "what we see out there happening across the USA are opportunities waiting to happen. In the night you can expect many of us to be out there making things worse for your average citizen, for your average cop, and for the United States Government as a whole." The group also called for attacks on power stations and train tracks, with the intent of creating more chaos.⁹
- (U//FOUO) On 31 May 2020, another post on TR's Telegram channel encouraged members without access to firearms, to sit on local roofs with tennis rackets and hit pebbles into the riots. The group clarified it does not matter who is injured, as long as it exacerbates the situation.¹⁰
- (U//FOUO) On 31 May 2020, members of neo-Nazi group Vorherrschaft Division (VD) suggested the group dress up as law enforcement and film themselves attacking black people to upload to social media. One member also insisted on targeting the electrical grid.¹¹
- (U//FOUO) From at least 30 May 2020, various users of far-right online forums have encouraged the formation of groups to attend protests and conduct small attacks. One user



(U//FOUO) Figure 2. Image of weapons posted by a user on an NSM Telegram channel in reference to the protests.

^a "Boogaloo" is a slang term used to mean a future civil war. Many ideological groups, particularly militia extremist and white supremacist extremist groups and individuals, reference the term (ADL).

specifically stated members should form "crews" of two to three people and expand slowly, to ensure proper vetting of members and to recruit only men "who are in it for the same reason" and "are willing to shed blood."¹²

- (U) On 29 May 2020, two men threatened peaceful protestors near the 16th Street Mall in Denver, Colorado. As the men drove away from the protests, the passenger yelled "Heil Hitler" and used a Nazi salute out of the window, both common WSE symbols.¹³

(U//FOUO) Some anti-government groups, such as Antifa (far-left), actively clash with WSE groups (far-right). The presence of both far-left and far-right extremist groups and individuals at BLM protests may increase the potential for violence and further the risk to law enforcement and public safety.

(U) Source Summary Statement

(U//FOUO) Information utilized in this Situational Awareness Bulletin was derived from open source and government reporting. When possible, open source information was corroborated through other law enforcement and government sources. Information in this bulletin is not considered fully evaluated or finished intelligence.

(U) Consumer:

- CO Law Enforcement
- CO Fire/EMS
- CO Emergency Managers
- CO State Agencies
- Fusion Centers
- Federal Partners

(U) For questions or comments regarding this Situational Awareness Bulletin, please contact the Colorado Information Analysis Center by email at cdps_ciac@state.co.us or at 877-509-2422.

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(U) Please take a moment to complete this survey and help evaluate the quality, value, and relevance of our intelligence product. Your response will help us serve you more effectively and efficiently in the future. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

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(U) This report addresses the following CIAC Standing Information Needs: CIAC SIN-01, CIAC SIN-09, CIAC SIN-10, CIAC SIN-11, CIAC SIN-12, and HSEC-8.

(U) Endnotes

¹ (U); ADL; ADL Website; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI UNK; (U) Anti-Government Extremism; <https://www.adl.org/resources/glossary-terms/anti-government-extremism>; Extracted information is U; Overall document classification is U; organization specializing in hate and extremism.

² (U); Revolutionary Abolitionist Movement; RAM Official Website; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 31 MAY 2020; (U) *RAM Call for International Solidarity: Storm Their Fragile Bastions of Power*; <https://www.revolutionaryabolition.org/news/storm-their-fragile-bastions-of-power/>; Extracted information is U; Overall document classification is U; official group statement.

³ (U//FOUO); CIAC Intelligence Analyst; Text message with images; 01 JUNE 2020; DOI 01 JUNE 2020; Extracted information is U//FOUO; Overall document classification is U//FOUO; intelligence analyst with over 10 years of experience.

⁴ Erik Maulbetsch; Colorado Times Recorder; Website; 01 JUNE 2020; DOI 31 MAY 2020; (U) *Denver Police Seized Assault Rifles from Anti-Government Gun Activists at Friday Night Protests*; <https://coloradotimesrecorder.com/2020/05/denver-police-seized-assault-rifles-from-anti-government-gun-activists-at-friday-night-protest/24690/>; Extracted information is U; Overall document classification is U; local news organization.

⁵ (U); A. Dent; Nostrofucious Blog; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 27 MAY 2020; (U) *Occupied*; <https://nostrofucious.blogspot.com/2020/05/occupied.html>; Extracted information is U; Overall document classification is U; anonymous individual with unknown reliability.

⁶ (U); ADL; ADL Website; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI UNK; (U) *White Supremacy*; <https://www.adl.org/resources/glossary-terms/white-supremacy>; Extracted information is U; Overall document classification is U; organization specializing in hate and extremism.

⁷ (U//FOUO); Anonymous User; National Socialist Movement Telegram Channel; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 02 JUNE 2020; Extracted information is U//FOUO; Overall document classification is U//FOUO; anonymous individual with unknown reliability.

⁸ (U//FOUO); Anonymous User; neo-Nazi Telegram Channel; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 01 JUNE 2020; Extracted information is U//FOUO; Overall document classification is U//FOUO; anonymous individual with unknown reliability.

⁹ (U//FOUO); Anonymous User; Terrorwave Refined Telegram Channel; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 31 MAY 2020; Extracted information is U//FOUO; Overall document classification is U//FOUO; anonymous individual with unknown reliability.

¹⁰ (U); *Ibid.*

¹¹ (U//FOUO); Anonymous User; Vorherrschaft Division Telegram Channel; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 31 MAY 2020; Extracted information is U//FOUO; Overall document classification is U//FOUO; anonymous individual with unknown reliability.

¹² (U//FOUO); Bob; Memetic Warfare General Group Chat; 04 JUNE 2020; DOI 06 JUNE 2020; Extracted information is U//FOUO; Overall document classification is U//FOUO; anonymous individual with unknown reliability.

¹³ (U) CIAC Intelligence Analyst; Email; 29 MAY 2020; DOI 29 MAY 2020; (U) *Nazi / White Supremacist*; Extracted information is U; Overall document classification is U; intelligence analyst with several years of experience.