



GEOS Group International and Competitive Risk Newsletter, n° 90, November 2009

## SECURITY

# BRAZIL : Lula launches war on gangs

**C**elebrations for the decision by the Olympic Committee that named Rio de Janeiro official host of the 2016 Olympic Games were still going on in the city when another reality reared its head. As is often the case in Brazil, rival gangs were clashing in a bid to gain control of a district, with each territory won ensuring the exclusivity of the sale of narcotics. This time around, the « Comando Vermelho », a gang born of the fusion of criminals and ultra-left factions that operated towards the end of the 1970's, decided to launch an operation against the « Amigos Dos Amigos », a splinter group of the « Comando Vermelho », formed in 1998. In total, more than 300 men using automatic weapons took part in a gunfight in the middle of the favela of Morro dos Macacos (Monkey

Hill) spreading terror among the inhabitants. The Amigos Dos Amigos even received back-up from another gang come in from the favela of Rocinha. Given the scale of the fighting, the military police and a unit of the Special Police Operations Battalion (BOPE) had to wait until dawn before intervening. It was at that moment that a surveillance helicopter was hit by machine gun fire, forcing the injured pilot to make an emergency landing on a football pitch, before the craft burst into flames. Two police officers died inside the helicopter.

### Government response

In the wake of such serious incidents that left 50 people dead, the government deployed 4,500 men to secure the zone. The Minister of Justice, Tarso

Genro, proposed to the Governor of the State of Rio to send in an elite Army unit to provide backup to the security forces. Governor Sergio Cabral who is campaigning for a second mandate declined the offer. The Governor has decided to build a separation barrier which should be completed before the 2014 Fifa World Cup. President Ignacio Luiz 'Lula' Da Silva announced that he would deploy all resources to quash the gangs, providing governors with the necessary budgets, saying that « *the country is ready to pay the price to eliminate this plague of violence* ». Over a year ago, Lula launched a plan for the favelas with the installation on an trial basis of Pacification Police Units in five favelas. The plan seems to have just shifted the violence elsewhere.

### EDITORIAL BY JEAN-PIERRE FERRO

DIRECTOR GEOS

LATIN AMERICA

▶ Brazil is confronted with the difficult task of reconciling an economy that is expanding exponentially and a tense social climate. The favelas, which in Rio stand side by side with wealth and opulence, are showing that they will not accept a world where they count for nothing. Narcotraffickers are the main beneficiaries of the situation. They have access to manpower that costs next to nothing and have the ability to intimidate all comers.

The challenge for the governors of Rio, Recife, Manaus, and Sao Paulo, is substantial at a time when the eyes of the world are focused on Brazil. Brazil Expo, the talent of the country's president, and the major international events to come all represent opportunities for Brazilian and foreign investors to consolidate their business and win new contracts and markets.

In a country where 60 % of the inhabitants go to bed hungry, Lula has bet on «creating» 60 million additional consumers. The potential of this continent-sized country is incalculable: a huge reservoir of manpower waiting to be trained, a highly motivated middle management, excellent directors in a country that is keen to make up for lost time and that finally has the resources to realise its ambitions. Before that can happen, and for the Brazilian miracle to really take place, an effective and appropriate solution to the violence must be found.

#### CONFERENCE DATA PROTECTION SENSITIZATION SESSIONS

▶ November 20 -  
GEOS Business  
Intelligence will give  
a conference on data  
protection during  
a gathering of managers  
of major French  
construction firms.

#### TRAINING EXPERTISE FOR EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

▶ November 27 -  
GEOS EUJR is giving  
a training session to a  
group of twenty experts who  
seek to work on European  
programs. For more  
information, expert-  
euir@grouppegeos.com

#### IRAQ SECURITY AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

▶ GEOS addressed  
the seminar  
organised by UBIFRANCE  
at the Baghdad  
International Trade Fair, and  
presented the security-  
related and practical  
aspects of their stay in Iraq.

#### NEW CALEDONIA PORT FACILITY SECURITY AGENT

▶ November 2 - 6,  
GEOS gave its first  
Port Facility Security Officer  
(PFSO) training session  
to six mining industry staff.  
GEOS Pacific is the only  
training centre of this  
kind on the island.

### PAKISTAN RADICALS STRIKE CIVILIAN TARGETS

▶ A suicide bombing killed at least 35 people at Rawalpindi, a suburb of Islamabad. Casualties included civilians and military servicemen who has just received their pay at the National Bank, located in the same district as the luxury hotels, government buildings and the Chief of Staff of the Pakistani Army. Several schools were also damaged.

### GERMANY HIGH SECURITY FOR BERLIN WALL MEMORIAL CEREMONIES

▶ For the twentieth anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, the German authorities implemented a massive security operation in the capital, an upgraded version of that used for the October festivals that take place each year in Munich. Though the security services did not specify any terrorist threat, security alert levels



were at their highest level, given the symbolism of the event. A 24-year old man, a dual Turkish German citizen, was arrested in Offenbach. He is accused of recruiting for the al-Qaeda terror network and procuring material required to build homemade bombs.

### NICARAGUA HIGH RISK VISIT TO MANAGUA UNIVERSITY

▶ The police rushed to get US Ambassador, R. Callahan, out of a conference held on campus. The diplomat had criticized the Supreme Court for their decision to annul the interdiction of a second presidential mandate that benefits President Ortega. Ortega's followers threw projectiles at the US ambassador.

### CAMEROON ARMY STRIKES BACK AT PIRATES

▶ The Cameroon Army Rapid Reaction Force destroyed a pirate vessel during an attack in the Gulf of Guinea. Three pirates were killed and three others captured. The incident led to the discovery of a weapons cache belonging to the pirates. This was the first attack of this type in Cameroon since March 2009.

### CHILI MAPUCHES LEADERS DECLARE WAR

▶ A Mapuche nationalist group has declared war on the Chilean Republic, and has claimed responsibility for attacks on transport trucks in the region of La Araucania in the centre of the country. The movement considers that talks with the Chilean government are over and have announced that their members have renounced their Chilean nationality.

### EGYPT ATTEMPTED HIJACKING ON EGYPTAIR

▶ A Sudanese national was restrained by EgyptAir cabin crew on an Istanbul - Cairo flight. Brandishing a knife, the hijacker demanded that the plane be rerouted to Jerusalem. He was arrested upon arrival in Cairo, and admitted that he had taken cocaine before boarding. The man has no links to terrorist organizations.

### HONDURAS POLICE DISCOVER HIT LIST

▶ Police in Honduras have announced that they have discovered documents that outline a plan to assassinate or kidnap police and military officers as well as businessmen. The country is in turmoil since the coup d'etat last June. Elections are planned for November.

## SECURITY

# UN to reinforce security in Afghanistan

## Five civilian UN personnel killed by Taliban

A heavily armed Taliban commando launched an assault on a residence housing UN observers in the Shar-e-Naw district in Kabul. This United Nations delegation was on site for the second round of the controversial presidential election. The gunfire lasted for more than two hours, killing eight people including five foreign UN staffers. The Taliban were armed with assault rifles and grenades, and were fitted with suicide belts. One of them set off his explosives belt to stop a member of the delegation from escaping. The Afghan intelligence services succeeded in arresting seven individuals, all members of the Haqqani network, one of the main movements affiliated to al-Qaeda in the country. Another man was arrested in Saudi Arabia as part of the same investigation. The UN and most of the NGOs pre-

sent plan to ratchet up security. Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon declared : « *We are evaluating the feasibility of sending additional units to ensure the security of our facilities, [...] We are going to ask the international community to increase its efforts in this regard* ». This deployment also includes private security agents. Along with Pakistan, Afghanistan is today the most dangerous place for civilian staffers of the UN. 27 of them have been killed this year, with more than half killed in this region. ***The mission of the United Nations in Afghanistan is not getting any easier. In addition to the hostility of the Taliban, relations with Kabul have gotten more tense on account of the ongoing problems of corruption, drug trafficking and doubts as to the fairness of the electoral process.***

## Chinese ship captured by pirates

The cargo ship *De Xin Hai*, transporting 76,000 tonnes of coal from South Africa and heading to India, was captured by pirates off the Seychelles Islands and the Somali coast, far from the region's most dangerous waters. Twenty-five Chinese seamen are being held prisoner. The pirates have threatened to kill the crew members if a rescue operation is made and have sailed the ship towards the Somali coast, to the port of Hobyo. Talks were underway during which the pirates demanded a ransom, but it appears that the Chinese government does not wish to go down this route, perhaps signalling the imminence of an assault by Chinese forces. This latest incident comes at a time when the Chinese Navy was involved in replacing two of its frigates deployed in the fight on piracy. The FFG-525

Ma'anshan and FFG-526 *Wenzhou* missile frigates will replace the FFG-529 *Zhoushan* and FFG-530 *Xuzhou* radar-evading hulled battle-ships. The China People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) deploys in this zone of the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden its 4th flotilla which numbers 700 crew members, a supply boat (currently the *Qiandao Lake*), a commando of special forces and two ship-borne helicopters. Over the last few years, China has become a major player in Africa. ***The massive presence of its navy, today the third largest in terms of tonnage in the world, enables the emerging superpower to project its forces ever further and ever more effectively. Today PLAN has naval bases in both Pakistan and the Maldives.***

#### SWITZERLAND FATF WINDS UP ITS ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACTION

▶ The Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) announced that it is to end its international monitoring of money laundering activity. This change in attitude comes after the new anti-money laundering law passed by the Swiss government, and the reinforcement of preventive measures and installation of surveillance systems for financial markets.

#### FRANCE ANTI-COUNTERFEITING LAW IN QUESTION

▶ The Senate's commission on law is set to establish a working group charged with verifying whether the anti-counterfeiting legislation passed two years ago has been effective. The group will examine in particular the « quality of penal response » and « reinforcement of resources and means at the disposal of Customs and legal services ».



#### CHINA AUTHORITIES EXTEND TRIAL AGAINST RIO TINTO

▶ The Chinese judicial authorities have announced that they are to extend by one month the investigation into espionage allegations against Australian mining corporation Rio Tinto.

#### UNITED STATES CIA MONITORS SOCIAL NETWORKS

▶ The US agency officially mandated Visible Technologies to monitor the Internet 2.0. Facebook, Twitter and Flickr will be scrutinised by Visible Technologies, a specialist firm in open source monitoring for major corporations. A further confirmation of the interest in information to be found on these social networks.

#### GERMANY CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST DEUTSCHE BANK

▶ The Court of Frankfurt has decided not to pursue charges against the directors and members of the Management Board of the Bank, suspected of spying on persons who had filed lawsuits against the bank. However, the Court is to continue its inquiries into possible data protection breaches.

## Publication of 2008 report on espionage in United States ONCIX highlights rise of cyberespionage

The US Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive (ONCIX) has handed in its annual report to Congress (see [www.ncix.gov/publications/reports/fecie\\_all/fecie\\_2008/2008\\_FECIE\\_Blue.pdf](http://www.ncix.gov/publications/reports/fecie_all/fecie_2008/2008_FECIE_Blue.pdf)). It gathers together data collected by the thirteen agencies and departments of the US intelligence community, including the CIA, NSA, the FBI, and the Departments of State and Energy. In its 2008 report, the threat of cyberespionage takes centre stage as it is the method most frequently used to perpetrate acts of industrial espionage. The report highlights operations hostile to the US government and US firms which increasingly harness the Internet to obtain information. Beyond the traditional acts of intrusion and data theft, social networks are revealed to have emerged as a windfall for

spies. They are used to obtain intelligence, and as channels for making contact with a potential «source». The sectors worst affected by acts of espionage remain the aeronautics industry, IT systems, laser technology and R&D in the field of optics as well as maritime sensor systems and radars. Such technologies frequently have dual applications, both civilian and military. The FBI has opened 55 new files and continues to investigate another 88 cases. With the generalization of smartphones, in particular the Blackberry and iPhone, important data is highly vulnerable to theft or loss. ***Companies that have grown due to these new technologies must implement stringent protection measures, as these technologies not only generate revenue, but also increase risk exposure.***

## South Korea lacks protection

This is the conclusion of Won Se-hoon, Chief of the NIS (National Intelligence Service). During his hearing before the Inspection Committee of the National Korean Assembly on Security Services, he drew the attention of the deputies to the growing threats that face the security of the country's business sector. Mr. Se-hoon criticised the activities of the North Korean services that use Internet to conduct cyber attacks against South Korean and American corporations. In the same vein, the report that the Ministry for Education, Science and Technology recently addressed to the same Assembly Committee provides fresh data. It describes 160 cases between 2004 and 2008 that cost the peninsula's economy some 253 billion won (150 billion euro). The cases of espionage

are broken down as follows: 73 in the electronics industry, 27 in telecommunications, 23 in precision machinery, 10 in high precision chemicals and 6 for biotechnologies. Commentators have said that there is a sociological reason for the 62% rise in the number of these incidents (see *Alertes* n°89). Disgruntled employees unhappy with their treatment at the hands of their employers, provide a fertile ground for disloyal conduct. ***The Korean intelligence community is concerned about the scale of espionage directed against the country's businesses, but like many of their counterparts abroad, they also envisage another threat, that of potential cyber sabotage attacks aimed at the national economy as a whole.***

#### SWEDEN THE VOLVO BUYOUT AND THE QUESTION OF PATENTS

▶ Ford is set to sell its Volvo Cars division to Chinese manufacturer Geely in the coming months. Geely will pay 2 billion dollars for the firm that it hopes will open Western markets. A transaction that will create a range of legal problems surrounding the patents owned by Ford and Swedish manufacturer Volvo since 1999 to protect their technologies.

#### FRANCE NEW ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR APPOINTED

▶ Olivier Buquen has been appointed French InterMinisterial Representative on Economic Intelligence. After a career spent at Paribas and Plastic Omnium, Mr. Buquen will be in charge of, among other tasks, « proposing State policy with regard to Economic Intelligence, and coordinating its implementation », and operating « monitoring systems to track scientific, technological and economic developments internationally ». He will also be in charge of « protecting strategic economic sectors », « the State's scientific, technological and economic assets as well as those of the country's businesses ». The post, which reports directly to the the French President and the Ministry of Finance, replaces the post occupied up by Alain Juillet until last Spring.



## PROTECTION OF EXPATRIATES AND BUSINESS TRAVELLERS

### CONTEXT

Business travellers and staff on short term assignment in potentially unstable regions are today faced with a range of threats that compromise their safety: physical assault, arbitrary detention, data theft, and kidnapping etc.

### YOUR REQUIREMENTS

Inform, sensitize and train your personnel that travel to high-risk environments, ensure compliance with mandatory requirements regarding pre-departure information for business travellers and staff leaving for assignments overseas.

### OUR SOLUTIONS

#### Sensitizations Training Sessions for Business Travellers and Expatriates

- » General course or classes adapted to specific geographic region or country.
- » Duration of training course: ½ day to 1 day.

\*GEOS is a certified training centre (Prefectorial autorisation n°: 11921397492 )

#### Operational Support :

- » Meet & Greet at Airport.
- » Journey management with a GEOS coordinator to facilitate the stay and supervision of local security system in place.
- » Security audits of hotels and residences.



#### Permanent Monitoring of High-Risk Zones :

- » Real-time : GeosTravelSecurity 24/7 Pushed Alerts that are customised to the client needs and provide real-time information on security-related and political events that could directly impact your business abroad.
- » End of each day : the GEOS Daily Brief provides a summary of international security risk-related news, categorised by geographic zone and risk level.
- » Bespoke services : notes and in-depth reports (security situation of country/zone).

#### Hotline GEOS : available 24/7

- » Subscribers can contact highly-qualified managers on-call
- » Immediate response to a wide range of scenarios: kidnapping or arbitrary detention of a staff member, rebellion against governmental authorities, coup d'etat, social unrest etc.

#### Implementation of security and evacuation plans

- » Comprehensive Security Plan and Detailed Evacuation Plan for expatriates in a given city or country, close contact with French diplomatic authorities and/or military on the ground.
- » Evacuation analysis based on range of alert levels and covering all available transportation means (land, sea, air).



#### Crisis Management

Activated by the hotline, our service covers all types of crisis (K&R, extortion, acts of intentional damage, sabotage, etc.).

### GEOS Leading the industry

- » An international network of local correspondents, country experts and partners (emergency assistance, aircraft rental, chartered companies, logistics services, etc.)
- » Excellent response and remediation capabilities, a comprehensive range of solutions for emergency repatriation upon request.
- » 10 years international crisis management experience.

[www.groupegeos.com](http://www.groupegeos.com)

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► Each month, ALERTES provides insight into one of the services proposed by the five main divisions of the GEOS Group, details of which can also be found on our web site: [www.groupegeos.com](http://www.groupegeos.com)  
Through a selection of articles culled from world wide current affairs, ALERTES illustrates the relevance of the services we offer to companies and organisations to enable them better manage international business and competitive risk.

« GEOS, the professional security risk prevention and management solution »

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Alertes is published in collaboration with the geo-strategic bulletin INTELLIGENCE & STRATEGIE