Toward a Strategy for National Security Emergencies

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National Security Emergencies (NSE)

...“...any occurrence, including natural disaster, military attack, technological emergency or other emergency that seriously degrades or seriously threatens the national security of the United States.”

EO 12656, Assignment of Emergency Preparedness Responsibilities
Catastrophic Incident

A catastrophic incident...is any natural or manmade incident, including terrorism, that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions...
Catastrophic Incident

...A catastrophic incident could result in sustained national impacts over a prolonged period of time; almost immediately exceeds resources normally available to State, local, tribal, and private-sector authorities in the impacted area; and significantly interrupts governmental operations and emergency services to such an extent that national security could be threatened.
Complex Catastrophe

Any natural or man-made incident, including cyberspace attack, power grid failure, and terrorism, which results in cascading failures of multiple, interdependent, critical, life-sustaining infrastructure sectors and causes extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage or disruption severely affecting the population, environment, economy, public health, national morale, response efforts, and/or government functions.

*Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, 19 February 2013*
Enormity
Immediacy
Enduring Impact
Existential Threat
Addressing the Issue

• The confluence of emerging and reemerging nation state threats, alongside foreseeable natural catastrophic incidents/complex catastrophes of a national scale, compels the United States to develop a Strategy for National Security Emergencies.

• The U.S. should re-imagine Homeland Security in view of the reemergence of nation state threats, and the potential of direct attacks against national critical functions and domestic national interests.

• DHS/FEMA must set the conditions for a transition to national mobilization, civil defense, and restoration of critical functions in the event of war.
Study’s Intent


• Focus: Nation State Threats
• Framework for a whole of nation mobilization and execution
  • Defeat the adversary
  • Manage the consequences of his assault against our people
• Civil-Military; Public and Private Sector Preparations
• Federal, State, Local ,Territorial, and Tribal (FSLTT) Governance
Major Findings

• The Next Time We Go to War...War Will be Coming to Us
• Preparing for, Responding to, and Recovering from national security emergencies will require extraordinary prioritization in the appropriation and allocation of resources
• Deliberate Partnerships in constructing and exercising plans and strategies will be necessary to ameliorate the impact of these prioritizations
• Hostile Foreign Influence (HFI) via Misinformation, Disinformation and Malinformation (MDM) will exacerbate conditions in an NSE
• Strategies and Plans are not Valued
Questions?

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