



# 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

Assist in the development of a Strategy for National Security Emergencies.

- 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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