

Dear Reader,

In the current era of strategic competition, homeland defense is becoming a matter of increasing importance as the North American homeland is now challenged by escalating kinetic and non-kinetic threats. The homeland serves as the core strategic support area, enabling mobilization, deployment, employment, and sustaining combat power against adversaries abroad; however, we can now anticipate a contested homeland where adversaries can obstruct and disrupt power projection and sustainment operations. Homeland defense guidance underscores the necessity for cohesive solutions, emphasizing cross-DOD and interagency coordination and integration to effectively address a multi-domain spectrum of threats and prepare proactively for an evolving battlespace.

The *2022 National Defense Strategy* and subsequent *2023 National Defense Science and Technology Strategy* accentuate the importance of cooperative efforts across various sectors, including academia, research institutions, and governmental agencies. Within this context, the current issue of the *Journal for Indo-Pacific Affairs (JIPA)* showcases the Homeland Defense Institute's (HDI) collaborative endeavors within the defense, policy, and private sector ecosystems. HDI efforts are aligned to facilitating educational initiatives, nurturing innovation, harnessing expertise, and effectively addressing the diverse array of challenges encountered across the homeland defense enterprise.

*JIPA* emerges as a crucial platform for disseminating knowledge and insights pertinent to homeland defense. As we navigate the complexities of strategic competition, the homeland defense articles encapsulated in this issue shed light on evolving threats in the Indo-Pacific region and their implications for homeland defense strategies. From analyzing Arctic operations to understanding geopolitical shifts, *JIPA* provides invaluable perspectives that inform our approach to securing the North American homeland. By highlighting the interconnectedness of global security challenges, it reinforces the imperative for collaborative efforts across sectors and regions to safeguard our homeland effectively. As such, *JIPA* serves as a vital resource for policy makers, military leaders, and practitioners working in the homeland defense space.

Embedded within this issue of *JIPA* are contributions from a variety of authors, each bringing their expertise and experience in homeland defense to the forefront. From seasoned military strategists to academics specializing in security studies, these thought leaders offer multifaceted analyses and innovative solutions to the complex challenges facing our homeland. Their respective insights reflect a comprehensive understanding of the evolving threat landscape and the need for adaptive and dynamic responses. By harnessing the collective wisdom of these experts,

*Garver*

the journal not only informs current homeland defense practices but also inspires new approaches and methodologies to stay ahead of emerging threats. This collaborative ethos underscores the authors' and the journal's commitment to fostering a robust and resilient homeland defense community, united in safeguarding our nation's security interests.



John M Garver  
Director, Homeland Defense Institute

**Disclaimer**

The views and opinions expressed or implied in *JIPA* are those of the authors and should not be construed as carrying the official sanction of the Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force, Air Education and Training Command, Air University, or other agencies or departments of the US government or their international equivalents.