DoD/DHS Interoperability for Homeland Security and Disaster Response: USNORTHCOM Perspective

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Katrina Report Observations

- Lack of timely damage assessment (*GAO, Congress, White House*)
- Communications difficulties (*GAO, Cong*)
- Problems with integrating military forces (*GAO, Cong, WH*)
- Uncoordinated search and rescue efforts (*GAO, Cong*)
- Logistics challenges (*GAO, Cong, WH*)
- Inadequate pre-incident DHS planning for required DoD capabilities (*Cong, WH*)
- Confusing Request For Assistance (RFA) requirements (*Cong*)
Katrina Report Observations

- **Lack of timely damage assessment (GAO, Cong, WH)**
  - Deployable Command Assessment Elements constituted
  - Coordination for DoD imagery and analysis to DHS
  - Streaming video experiments
Katrina Report Observations

• **Communications difficulties (GAO, Cong)**
  • Deployable communications
  • Mobile cell tower packages
  • Greater access and use of SIPR and HSIN respectively
  • Homeland Data Sharing Program initiative
Katrina Report Observations

- Problems with integrating military forces (GAO, Cong, WH)
  - State JTF Commander Course
  - Regional Defense Coordinating Officer (DCO) coordination
  - 2007 Hurricane Conference
  - Close coordination with NGB
Katrina Report Observations

• Uncoordinated search and rescue efforts (GAO, Cong)
  • Extensive planning and coordination with DHS/FEMA for joint procedures
Katrina Report Observations

- Logistics challenges (*GAO, Cong, WH*)
  - Agreements with DLA for specific stocks
  - Common use of IRRIS for transportation visibility
  - Information exchanges of mortuary affairs capabilities and procedures
Katrina Report Observations

• Inadequate pre-incident DHS planning for required DoD capabilities (Cong, WH)
  • Significant NORTHCOM planning support to FEMA for 2006 hurricane season preparation
  • On-going Pandemic Influenza response planning
  • 15 National Planning Scenarios
• Confusing Request For Assistance (RFA) requirements (Cong)
  • Collaborative development of Pre-scripted Requests for Assistance
  • Joint DCO/FCO (Federal Coordinating Officer) conferences to clarify request procedures