Homeland Security: The Concept, the Organization

Chapter 1

A Concept of Homeland Security

• The concept of Homeland security was broached long before the September 11 Attacks
  ◦ Many previous terrorist attacks against Americans and American interests
• After September 11, these ideas where turned into policy
  ◦ Resulted in major changes in the structure of government

A New Concept: The Homeland Security Enterprise

• Resulted from the 2010 Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR)
  ◦ Revised the definition of homeland security to incorporate a more global/comprehensive approach
  ◦ Created the concept of a “homeland security enterprise” (HSE)
• HSE defined as:
  ◦ “The Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial, nongovernmental, and private-sector entities, as well as individuals, families, and communities who share a common national interest in the safety and security of America and the American population.”
• DHS is but one component of this
A New Concept (cont.)

- Homeland Security is also the intersection of evolving threats and hazards with traditional governmental and civic responsibilities for:
  - Civil defense
  - Emergency response
  - Law enforcement
  - Customs
  - Border control
  - Immigration

A New Concept (cont.)

- Homeland security:
  - Breaks down longstanding stovepipes of activity that have been and could still be exploited by those seeking to harm America
  - Also creates a greater emphasis on the need for joint actions and efforts across previously discrete elements of government and society

A New Concept (cont.)

- Important concept
  - Stresses diversity of organizations and individuals that have homeland security responsibilities
  - No single person/entity is responsible
  - *It is a shared responsibility!*
A New Concept (cont.)

- DHS has defined three concepts as the foundation for a comprehensive approach to homeland security
  1) **Security**: Protect the homeland and its people, vital interests, and way of life
     - Often deals with global systems
  2) **Resilience**: Foster individual, community, and system robustness, adaptability, and capacity
     - Interdependent systems
  3) **Customs and exchange**: expedite and enforce lawful trade, travel, and immigration
     - Linked to security, but sometimes at odds

A New Department

- Former PA Governor Tom Ridge became the first DHS Secretary
- The greatest federal reorganization since Truman consolidated the Defense Department
  - Joined more than 179,000 federal employees from 22 existing federal agencies

A New Department (cont.)

- DHS charged with a threefold mission of:
  1) Protecting the United States from further terrorist attacks
  2) Reducing the nation’s vulnerability to terrorism
  3) Minimizing the damage from potential terrorist attacks and natural disaster
A Country-wide Role

- Other Federal Agencies
- State and Territorial Governments
- Tribal Governments
- County Governments
- Local Governments
- Critical Infrastructure Key Resource (CIKR) Owners and Operators
- Small-Businesses