

**Advance Questions for Paul Stockton
Nominee for Assistant Secretary of Defense for
Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs**

Defense Reforms

The Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986 and the Special Operations reforms have strengthened the warfighting readiness of our Armed Forces. They have enhanced civilian control and clearly delineated the operational chain of command and the responsibilities and authorities of the combatant commanders, and the role of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. They have also clarified the responsibility of the Military Departments to recruit, organize, train, equip, and maintain forces for assignment to the combatant commanders.

Do you see the need for modifications of any Goldwater-Nichols Act provisions?

Goldwater-Nichols was landmark legislation that led to dramatic improvements in operational effectiveness, unity of effort, and civilian oversight. We now have a generation of military leaders for whom operating in a coordinated and joint, multi-service environment is the norm. Given these successes, I do not see an immediate need to change the provisions of this legislation. If confirmed, I would hope to be in a position to help strengthen the U.S. Government's ability to craft effective whole of government approaches to the national security challenges we face.

If so, what areas do you believe might be appropriate to address in these modifications?

See my previous answer.

Relationships

What do you see as the relationship between the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs and each of the following:

The Secretary of Defense

Pursuant to the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs serves as the principal civilian advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy on homeland defense activities, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere security matters.

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs provides support to the Deputy Secretary similar to that provided to the Secretary, as described above.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs functions under the authority, direction and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and provides advice, counsel, and support to the Under Secretary on homeland defense, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere security matters in interagency for a (such as National Security Council and Homeland Security Council deliberations), engagement with interagency and Western Hemisphere interlocutors, and in the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) processes inside the Department, including the Quadrennial Defense Review, the Quadrennial Roles and Missions Review, and annual program and budget reviews.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence

Pursuant to the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with, and provide homeland defense, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere policy inputs to the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence to achieve the Secretary of Defense's objectives, particularly the defense of the United States from attack upon its territory at home and to secure its interests abroad in the Western Hemisphere.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities to provide the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Secretary of Defense with advice and recommendations on policy issues regarding combating terrorism within the United States and policy oversight to ensure that the Secretary's guidance and decisions are implemented properly.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs to provide the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Secretary of Defense with advice and recommendations on policy issues regarding emerging threats to the United States and policy oversight to ensure that the Secretary's guidance and decisions are implemented properly.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs and the civilian officials of the military departments in charge of Reserve affairs

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs and the civilian officials of the military departments in charge of Reserve affairs on Department of Defense policy regarding the development, readiness, and employment of National Guard and Federal reserve component forces within the United States and policy oversight to ensure that the Secretary of Defense's guidance and decisions are implemented properly.

The Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and the Directors of the Army and Air National Guard

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and the Directors of the Army and Air National Guard, particularly regarding the roles, capabilities, and readiness of the National Guard to support the homeland defense and civil support priorities and objectives of the Secretary of Defense.

The Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency

Pursuant to the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with, and provide homeland defense, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere policy inputs to, the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to achieve the Secretary of Defense's objectives, particularly the defense of the United States from attack upon its territory at home and to secure its interests abroad in the Western Hemisphere.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on Department of Defense policy, particularly regarding health force protection, the threat of biological terrorism, the medical aspects of domestic consequence management, and Defense Support of Civil Authorities.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration on programs, processes, and supporting infrastructures to provide for mission assurance, crisis management, and information sharing with DoD's Federal, State, local, and international partners.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff

As the principal military advisor to the Secretary of Defense, the President, the National Security Council, and the Homeland Security Council, the Chairman has a unique and critical military role. If confirmed as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security

Affairs, I will work closely with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to support the efforts of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary, and to ensure that their military advice is taken into account in an appropriate manner.

The Commander of United States Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command to support the efforts of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Secretary and Deputy Secretary, particularly in the areas of homeland defense, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere strategy and policy, contingency planning and policy oversight of operations.

The Commander of United States Southern Command

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Commander of the U.S. Southern Command to support the efforts of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Secretary and Deputy Secretary, particularly in the areas of homeland defense, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere strategy and policy, contingency planning and policy oversight of operations.

The Commander of United States Pacific Command

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command to support the efforts of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Secretary and Deputy Secretary, particularly in the areas of homeland defense and Defense Support of Civil Authorities strategy and policy, contingency planning and policy oversight of operations.

The Commander of United States Strategic Command

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Commander of the U.S. Strategic Command to support the efforts of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Secretary and Deputy Secretary, particularly in the areas of homeland defense and Defense Support of Civil Authorities strategy and policy, contingency planning and policy oversight of operations.

The Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, works closely with the Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, particularly regarding efforts in domestic chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threat reduction and defense, counterproliferation, and emergency response support and training.

The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs works closely with the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs, particularly regarding DoD chemical, biological, and nuclear defense programs as they relate to homeland defense, antiterrorism/force protection, and Defense Support of Civil Authorities.

The State Governors

In accordance with Title 50, U.S. Code, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs is responsible for coordinating DoD assistance to Federal, State, and local officials. Governors play a critical role in Homeland Security. If confirmed, I look forward to becoming more familiar with my responsibilities to support state governors and to take carefully in to account their perspective on the role of DoD in this process.

Duties and Qualifications

DOD Directive 5111.13 of January 16, 2009 states that the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs (ASD(HD&ASA)), “under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)), serves as the principal civilian advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the USD(P) on homeland defense activities, Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA), and Western Hemisphere security matters.” It further elaborates that the ASD(HD&ASA) shall provide overall supervision of homeland defense activities of the Department of Defense (DOD) which include “Defense Critical Infrastructure Program (DCIP); domestic antiterrorism; the Defense Continuity Program; other homeland defense-related activities; and alignment of homeland defense policies and programs with DOD policies for counterterrorism and counternarcotics.”

What is your understanding of the duties and functions of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (ASD) for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs position to which you have been nominated, and do they differ from those described in DOD Directive 5111.13?

My understanding of the duties and functions of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs is consistent with those described in DoD Directive 5111.13, as well as other applicable DoD directives.

What background and experience do you possess that you believe qualifies you to perform these duties?

As the founding director of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, I have led a wide range of graduate education and research programs in direct support of the Department of Defense the Department of Homeland Security, other Federal departments, and state and local agencies and elected officials across the United States. That position gave me an opportunity to closely listen to and learn from those on the front lines of strengthening homeland defense and security. My subsequent position as senior research scholar at Stanford University has enabled me to examine these issues in still greater detail.

What additional actions do you believe you need to take, if any, to prepare yourself to fulfill these duties?

If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with the members of this committee in carrying out the duties and functions of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs.

Combating Terrorism Roles and Responsibilities

The Department of Defense's combating terrorism activities are currently divided into four categories: Antiterrorism/Force Protection, Counterterrorism, Terrorism Consequence Management, and Intelligence. Section 902 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003, which established the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense, also transferred the responsibility for the overall direction and supervision for policy, program planning and execution, and allocation of resources for the Department's combating terrorism activities to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Please specify what activities within each of the four combating terrorism categories will be under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs.

If confirmed, I will work closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence to achieve the Secretary of Defense's objectives with respect to proper alignment of DoD combating terrorism activities. After review and consultation with these individuals, I will make any recommendations with respect to the overall direction and supervision for policy, program planning and execution, and allocation of resources for the Department's role in support of combating terrorism activities to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

What DOD official or officials will be responsible for DOD combating terrorism activities not under your jurisdiction?

See my previous answer.

What steps will you take to ensure that the Department's efforts are focused and well coordinated in this critical area of homeland defense?

If confirmed, I will work closely with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict and Interdependent Capabilities, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence to achieve the Secretary of Defense's objectives in this critical area of homeland defense.

Major Challenges and Problems

In your view, what are the major challenges that will confront the ASD for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs?

If confirmed, my office would likely play an important role within the Department and the interagency process in developing policy for a number of key issues, including among others: preventing terrorist attacks against the United States, particularly attacks using weapons of mass destructions; planning and preparing for the response to catastrophic incidents in the United States; combating terrorism; adapting the U.S. military for 21st century challenges to the homeland; and strengthening our alliances with key partners and allies in the Western Hemisphere. If confirmed, I look forward to ensuring that the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Secretary of Defense receive the best possible policy input on these vital questions.

If you are confirmed, what priorities and plans do you have for addressing these challenges?

If confirmed, I expect to provide advice and counsel to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and aid in the development of policy advice to the Secretary of Defense. In this, I would give priority to the major challenges identified by the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and to strengthening the organizational capacity of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs to address them. I would also pay close attention to the development and maintenance of effective working relationships with both military and civilian counterparts in the Department and the interagency. I would also participate in a number of processes, including the Quadrennial Defense Review and the PPBE process, which will provide an opportunity to assess these challenges and develop policy, plans, and investments to address them.

What do you anticipate will be the most serious problems in the performance of the responsibilities of the ASD for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs?

If confirmed, one of my greatest imperatives will be to establish close, cooperative relations with DoD's Federal, State, local, and Western Hemisphere partners. I believe that the serious challenges to

the security of the United States and that of its friends and allies in the Western Hemisphere cannot be solved by any single agency or country, but instead must be faced together cooperating towards common goals.

If confirmed, what management actions and timelines would you establish to address these problems?

If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy in establishing appropriate priorities, actions, and timelines to address these problems.

Difference Between Homeland Defense and Homeland Security

The Department of Defense is responsible for Homeland defense, and the Department of Homeland Security is responsible for Homeland security.

Please describe your understanding of the differences between the two different missions.

The Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security have complementary and mutually supporting roles, missions, and responsibilities. The Department of Defense is responsible for the military defense of the United States from attack upon its territory at home and securing its interests abroad; military missions aim to deter, defend against, and defeat those who threaten the United States. For its part, the Department of Homeland Security is responsible for leading the nation's efforts to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against the risk of natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters; to secure the nation's borders, ports, and airports; and to ensure that the Federal Government works with states, localities, and the private sector as a true partner in prevention, mitigation, and response. As necessary, and consistent with the law, the Department of Defense provides support to the Department of Homeland Security in the execution of its missions.

Do you agree that the Department of Defense should not be responsible for Homeland security, but may serve in a supporting role to assist civilian federal agencies as directed by the President or Secretary of Defense?

Congress, in the Homeland Security Act of 2002, assigned to the Department of Homeland Security the responsibility for preventing terrorist attacks within the United States; reducing the vulnerability of the United States to terrorism; and minimizing the damage, and assisting in the recovery from terrorist attacks that occur within the United States. As necessary, and consistent with the law, the Department of Defense provides support to the Department of Homeland Security in the execution of its missions.

Installation Security

The security of U.S. military installations - both at home and abroad - has been a longstanding priority for the Senate Armed Services Committee.

If confirmed, what would be your priorities for ensuring an adequate level of security for military installations in the United States?

If confirmed, I would work to ensure the effectiveness of Department of Defense antiterrorism and protection policies in detecting, deterring, and responding to threats directed at Department of Defense installations, facilities, and personnel, including their families. I would also work to ensure that adequate resources are provided to execute these policies and that the Department of Defense is working closely with its Federal, State, local, and tribal partners in establishing a mutually supportive protective posture inside and outside Department of Defense installations and facilities.

Defense Critical Infrastructure Program

The ASD for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs is responsible for overseeing DOD efforts and programs to protect defense critical infrastructure.

If confirmed, what plans, approaches, and priorities would you have for ensuring that the Defense Critical Infrastructure Program is functioning properly?

I have not had the opportunity to review the plans, approaches, and priorities for ensuring that the Defense Critical Infrastructure Program is functioning properly. If confirmed, I would review such plans, approaches, and priorities, and make recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Vulnerability of Defense Energy Supplies

In February 2008, the Defense Science Board Task Force on DOD Energy Strategy issued a report that considered, among other issues, the vulnerability of assured energy supply to military installations, including those installations that host task critical assets for high priority defense missions. The Task Force concluded that relying on commercial electrical power is not adequate for the Department to assure adequate power to its critical missions, and that "critical national security and Homeland defense missions are at an unacceptably high risk of extended outage from failure of the grid and other critical national infrastructure."

If confirmed, will you review the Task Force report and examine the related issues of the vulnerability of the commercial power grid to prolonged outages, and options and alternatives for assuring adequate power to Department of Defense critical missions at installations in the United States?

If confirmed, I will review the Task Force report and examine the related issues. I will make

necessary recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (WMD-CSTs)

There are now 54 National Guard Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (WMD-CSTs) established, at least one in each state and territory.

If confirmed, what would be your role with regard to the oversight, training, and employment of the WMD-CSTs?

If confirmed, I would expect to be responsible for coordinating with other DoD Components regarding the readiness posture of CBRNE forces, including the WMD-CSTs.

CBERNE Enhanced Response Force Packages (CERFPs)

The National Guard Bureau has established 17 Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Packages (CERFPs).

Please provide your understanding of the role and capabilities of these units.

It is my understanding that the National Guard CERFPs, in conjunction with WMD-CSTs, assist local, State, and Federal authorities in CBRNE consequence management. If confirmed, I intend to improve my understanding of these roles and capabilities and if necessary make recommendations as appropriate to the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.

If confirmed, what would be your role with regard to the oversight, training, and employment of the CERFPs?

If confirmed, I would expect to be responsible for coordinating with other DoD Components regarding the readiness posture of CBRNE forces, including the CERFPs.

CBRNE Consequence Management Response Forces (CCMRFs)

The Secretary of Defense has issued guidance to establish 3 CBRNE Consequence Management Response Forces (CCMRFs) by October 1, 2010.

Please provide your understanding of the roles and capabilities of the CCMRFs.

It is my understanding that the CCMRFs are trained, equipped, and prepared to assist (upon request) Federal, State, and local civil authorities in the response to a CBRNE incident within the United States. If confirmed, I intend to improve my understanding of these roles and capabilities and if necessary make recommendations as appropriate to the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.

Do you have any concerns about the ability of the Department to implement the Secretary's direction to create the three CCMRFs on the prescribed schedule?

I do not have a detailed understanding of current implementation plans. If confirmed, I would monitor implementation of the Secretary's direction closely.

If confirmed, what would be your role with regard to the oversight, training, and employment of the CCMRFs?

If confirmed, I would expect to be responsible for coordinating with other DoD Components regarding the readiness posture of CBRNE forces, including the CCMRFs.

Concerns have been raised about CCMRFs having a possible peacetime role that is inconsistent with other laws (such as Posse Comitatus).

Do you agree that the purpose of CCMRFs is as a DOD support element for CBRNE incidents, and not for peacetime or civil disturbance missions?

It is my understanding that the purpose of the CCMRFs is to assist (upon request) Federal, State, and local civil authorities in the response to a CBRNE incident within the United States. It is also my understanding that the CCMRFs' mission set does not include domestic law enforcement, crowd control, peacekeeping activities, assistance to civil authorities in instances of civil unrest, or activities to suppress civil disturbances, insurrections, or rebellions.

DOD CBRNE Consequence Management Capabilities

Section 1082 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) required the Department to establish an advisory panel to review the Department's capabilities to provide defense support of civil authorities in the event of a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high-yield explosives (CBRNE) incident, and to recommend any changes it believes necessary. The advisory panel has not yet been finalized or had its first meeting, and it would likely take a year after the first meeting before it reports its recommendations.

If confirmed, will you take the steps necessary to ensure that the provisions of section 1082 are implemented, and that the advisory panel undertakes its mission?

Yes.

Mexico – Violence from Drug Cartels

Mexico has been wracked by high levels of violence related to drug trafficking and drug cartels fighting among themselves and against the Mexican authorities. This violence threatens to spill over the southwestern border of the United States, and has led the border Governors to

call for increased National Guard troops along the border. The ASD for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs has responsibility for oversight of U.S.-Mexican military relations and security cooperation between the two militaries.

What do you believe is the correct approach for the Department of Defense in working with Mexico to help mitigate this drug-related violence?

I believe that preventing and responding to drug-related violence, in Mexico as in the United States, is primarily the responsibility of civilian law enforcement agencies. If confirmed, I look forward to working with my counterparts at the Department of State and other relevant federal agencies to strengthen programs to support efforts to mitigate this drug-related violence, and make appropriate recommendations on the DoD role to the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.

What do you believe is the proper role for other civilian agencies in protecting the U.S. border against drug-related violence from Mexico, and what role do you believe the Department of Defense should have, if any?

Protecting the U.S. border against drug-related violence from Mexico is primarily the responsibility of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies. DoD's role in the execution of this responsibility is to provide appropriate lawful support when requested, and subsequently approved, by the President or the Secretary of Defense.

Pandemic Influenza

The United States is currently facing a pandemic influenza virus that appears to have originated in Mexico. The Department of Defense has had a very limited role in this situation, since other civilian agencies – particularly the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) – have the primary responsibilities for such a public health challenge.

Do you agree that DHS and DHHS should have the primary responsibilities for such a situation?

Yes.

What role do you see for the Department of Defense in responding to a pandemic influenza situation?

I believe DoD has a two-fold role. First, DoD should be responsible for protecting the health of the Armed Forces and ensuring their preparedness to execute military missions to protect the United States and its interests. Second, DoD should be a supporting partner as required in the implementation of U.S. government plans concerning influenza

National Guard and Reserve Role in Homeland Defense

There is currently considerable debate about the role the National Guard should play in defending the Homeland and in providing civil support assistance in Homeland security missions. The Commission on the National Guard and the Reserves recommended that the National Guard and Reserves be given “the lead role in and form the backbone of DOD operations in the homeland. Furthermore, DOD should assign the National Guard and Reserves homeland defense and civil support as a core competency consistent with their warfighting tasks and capabilities.”

What role do you believe that the National Guard and Reserve should have in Homeland defense, as compared to the Active Component?

Homeland defense is a Total Force responsibility. If confirmed, I will update my understanding of the roles, missions and capabilities of the National Guard and the Reserves and will work to ensure that they have the equipment, training, and personnel to accomplish their missions, both at home and abroad.

What role do you believe the National Guard and Reserves should have in providing civil support assistance to other federal agencies, as compared to the Active Component?

Civil support is a Total Force responsibility. If confirmed, I look forward to helping to ensure that the National Guard and Reserves are equipped, trained, and prepared to execute vital missions in support of civil authorities in the United States.

Relationship with U.S. Northern Command

U.S. Northern Command was established in October 2002 with the mission of conducting operations to deter, prevent, and defeat threats and aggression aimed at the United States, its territories, and interests within the Command’s assigned area of responsibility; and, as directed by the President or Secretary of Defense, to provide military assistance to civil authorities, including consequence management operations.

If confirmed, how do you anticipate you would coordinate roles and responsibilities with the Commander of U.S. Northern Command?

If confirmed, I would expect to be responsible for working closely with the Commander of U.S. Northern Command to support the efforts of the Secretary of Defense, particularly in the areas of Homeland Defense, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, and Western Hemisphere strategy and policy, contingency planning and policy oversight of operations.

How do you anticipate that the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs and the Commander of U.S. Northern Command will coordinate with other federal and State entities in planning for response to catastrophic

events that might require Defense Department support?

If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with the Commander of U.S. Northern Command to ensure that Defense Department support to other federal and state entities in response to catastrophic events, if required, is provided in a timely and coordinated fashion.

Relationship with the Department of Homeland Security

The establishment of the Department of Homeland Security was one of the U.S. Government's largest cabinet-level reorganizations in the last 50 years. Despite this reorganization, the Department of Defense will continue to play an important role in providing Defense Support to Civil Authorities for federal response to certain domestic incidents, as directed by the President or the Secretary of Defense.

If confirmed, what role do you expect to play in the coordination of DOD activities with the Department of Homeland Security and its component elements?

If confirmed, I would be responsible for coordinating the integration of homeland defense policies, programs and activities with DHS, as well as coordinating on the development, validation, and execution of DoD support to civil authorities such as DHS.

Use of Active Duty and Reserve Personnel for Homeland Defense/Posse Comitatus

The Department of Defense has a mission to provide support to other federal agencies in the event of a domestic incident that requires a federal response, if directed by the President or the Secretary of Defense. The Posse Comitatus Act prohibits military personnel in a federal status from engaging directly in domestic law enforcement "except in cases and under circumstances expressly authorized by the Constitution or Act of Congress." Use of National Guard personnel in a state status is not prohibited by this act, but the use of military personnel, including the National Guard in a Federal status, is prohibited.

What is your understanding of the legal issues and authority associated with using National Guard and Reserve personnel in security roles within the United States?

Under the authority of State Governors, in State Active Duty status or duty status under Title 32, U.S. Code, the National Guard is not subject to the restrictions imposed by the Posse Comitatus Act. However, when ordered to active duty, the National Guard and the Federal Reserve components are subject to the restrictions imposed by the Posse Comitatus Act with certain exceptions specifically authorized by the Congress.

In your opinion, does the Posse Comitatus Act (18 U.S.C. § 1385) or chapter 18 of title 10, U.S.C. (which regulates the use of the armed forces in support of civilian law enforcement and related activities) require amendment to deal with the present homeland security situation?

If confirmed, I would carefully review this issue and if necessary make appropriate recommendations to the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.

Under what circumstances do you believe that it is appropriate for the Department of Defense to provide assistance to law enforcement authorities in response to a domestic terrorist event? What about a non-terrorist event?

I do not yet have a detailed understanding of the legal and policy issues at stake on this issue.

If confirmed, what role do you expect to play in making such determinations and making such assistance available?

If confirmed, I would be responsible for advising, through the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Secretary of Defense on requests for DoD assistance to law enforcement agencies.

Modularity

Modularity refers to the Army's fundamental reconfiguration of the force from a large division-based to a brigade-based structure. The new modular brigade combat team is supposed to have an increased capability to operate independently based upon increased and embedded combat support capabilities such as military intelligence, reconnaissance, and logistics. Although somewhat smaller in size, the new modular brigades are supposed to be just as or more capable of full spectrum operations than the divisional brigades they replace. Additionally, under the modular construct, combat, support, and service support brigades would transform to standardized designs that would be self contained with organic support and service support units, full spectrum capable, networked, and compatible with any division headquarters. This, the Army argues, provides increased strategic flexibility and force availability. Modular units would share common structure and equipment to allow complete interchangeability across the spectrum of conflict. The plan also provides for the transformation of the Total Army – Active and Reserve Components – to modular design and equipment.

What is your understanding and assessment of the Army's modular design and implementation of this transformation strategy as it relates to the Department's homeland defense and civil support missions?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar with the Army's modular design and its implementation. If confirmed, I would review this program and its implementation as it relates to DoD's homeland defense and civil support missions and if necessary make any necessary recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

In your view, what are the greatest challenges, if any, for Department's homeland defense and civil support missions related to the Army's transformation to the

modular design?

See my previous answer.

If confirmed, what actions or changes would you propose, if any, relative to the Army's modular transformation strategy?

See my previous answer.

Army Force Generation Model (ARFORGEN)

The Army relies on a force generation model (ARFORGEN) in which units are manned, equipped, and trained to levels of low to higher readiness over time as they cycle through "reset and train," "ready," and "available for deployment" force pools. This approach will also apply to the Army's Reserve Components.

What is your understanding and assessment of the Army's force generation model and its implications for the Department's readiness for homeland defense and civil support missions?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar with the ARFORGEN and its implementation. If confirmed, I would review the force generation models used by all of the services and their implementation as they relate to DoD's homeland defense and civil support missions and make any necessary recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

In your view, what are the greatest resource, readiness, and operational challenges, if any, with respect to ARFORGEN model?

See my previous answer.

If confirmed, what actions or changes would you propose, if any, to the design, implementation, or management of ARFORGEN?

See my previous answer.

Coordination of Expertise between the Departments of Homeland Security and Energy

The personnel at the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Laboratories have expertise that may be useful to the Department of Homeland Security and to the Department of Defense in the execution of their respective homeland security and homeland defense missions.

How do you believe the Department of Defense can help ensure coordination and communication with the appropriate experts of the National Labs to help respond quickly in the event of a national incident or emergency that would require their

assistance?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar with the full spectrum of capabilities offered by the National Laboratories. If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about these capabilities and making any necessary recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Department of Homeland Security.

Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC)

WHINSEC, which replaced the School of the Americas in 2001, has the mission of contributing to theater cooperation activities and capacity building efforts through the education and training of students in the Western Hemisphere from Canada to Chile.

What is your view of WHINSEC and its mandate?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar with WHINSEC and its mandate. If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about these issues and making any necessary recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

In your view, does WHINSEC promote the national security interests of the United States in the Western Hemisphere?

See the answer above.

Role of U. S. Southern Command

If confirmed, you will be responsible for overseeing policy for defense security cooperation, the Department's counter-narcotics efforts in the source nations and transit zone, security of the Panama Canal, implementation of security assistance programs, and development of democratic values within the military organizations of the region. To complicate matters, you will face the challenge of pursuing these missions at a time when there appears to be movement away from democracy in some nations, and increasing instability in other nations.

If confirmed, what will be your highest priorities for Western hemisphere security?

If confirmed, I would recommend to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy that our priority for Western Hemisphere security continue to focus on making the U.S. and its partners more secure from existing and potential threats.

What actions would you propose to counter the growing threat to democracy in the region?

I have not had the opportunity to review the existing DoD plans, approaches, and actions for Western Hemisphere security. If confirmed, I would review such plans, approaches, and actions and make any necessary recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

What is your assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of military-to-military exchange programs and contacts in the U. S. Southern Command area of responsibility?

See the answer above.

Counter-Narcotics Efforts

Each year the Department of Defense spends several hundred million dollars to counter the flow of illegal drugs into the United States, yet the availability of drugs on the street has not been significantly reduced, and some countries continue to face internal security challenges in responding to this threat. This has led many to question the effectiveness and focus of our counter-narcotics programs.

How would you recommend that the success of the Department's counter-narcotics programs be measured?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar the details of these programs. If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about them and their potential implications for DOD policy.

Do you believe that the current programs that the Department is pursuing are the most effective for the region, or should the Department's efforts focus elsewhere?

See my previous answer.

If confirmed, where would you rank counter-narcotics in terms of its contribution to our national security and the ability of the Department of Defense to make a meaningful contribution, as compared to other missions for which you would be responsible?

It is my understanding that the most recent National Defense Strategy states that the core responsibility of the Department of Defense is to defend the United States from attack upon its territory at home and to secure its interests abroad. Nonetheless, the nexus between narcotics and terrorism is a serious challenge to the United States and its interests abroad.

Terrorism Threat from Caribbean and Central America

In your view, what is the extent of the current threat to the homeland of terrorist extremists from the Caribbean and Central America?

If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about these threats.

How would you broadly characterize that threat – low, medium, or high?

See the answer above.

Haiti

The U.N. Security Council voted unanimously on October 14, 2008, to extend the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Haiti for one year. Haiti continues to experience turmoil and instability.

How would you characterize the current military, economic, and political situation in Haiti, including the role of the U.N. peacekeeping force and the U. S. military?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar the details of this situation..

How do you assess the security situation in Haiti now and what is your estimate of how the situation will look in six months?

See my previous answer.

What conditions or indicators do you consider important in determining whether there will be another wave of Haitian emigration?

See my previous answer

In your view, what is the cost and effectiveness of U. S. assistance to Haiti?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar the details of these assistance programs. If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about them and their potential implications for DOD policy.

Cuba

What is your opinion about the need for, and pros and cons of, military-to-military contact with Cuba?

Currently, my understanding is that the U.S. military conducts regular “fence-line” talks with the Cuban military at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, to help ensure that there are no misunderstandings between both sides. If confirmed, I will closely examine whether additional

military-to-military contact can play a helpful role in supporting the President's policy of promoting democracy and human rights in Cuba.

What is your view of the need for review, and potentially revision, of U. S. policies regarding Cuba?

I understand that President Obama has been reviewing U.S. policies toward Cuba, and has already taken important steps to revise some policies. If confirmed, I would increase my understanding of these policies and actions, and make recommendations as appropriate to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Bolivia

In the past few years, Bolivia has experienced extreme political unrest and, lately, President Morales has taken some positions that could complicate U.S. relations with Bolivia.

How do you assess the situation in Bolivia and, if confirmed, how would you seek to accomplish the goals of combating drug trafficking and enhancing military engagement goals?

The situation in Bolivia is of concern. I have not had the opportunity to review the existing DoD plans, approaches, and actions for Bolivia. If confirmed, one of my priorities will be to review such plans, approaches, and actions and make recommendations to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Venezuela

U. S. -Venezuelan relations have continued to be strained as President Chavez continues to propagate anti-American rhetoric to anyone that will listen, import increasing amounts of military armament, politicize the Venezuelan military forces, and export his brand of populism to the region.

What is your view of President Chavez's intentions in the region?

I believe that President Chavez seeks to be a regional player and expand his sphere of influence.

How would you characterize the current state of military-to-military relations between the United States and Venezuela?

I have not had the opportunity to review the existing DoD plans, approaches, and actions for Venezuela. If confirmed, I would review such plans, approaches, and actions, including military-to-military relations, and make recommendations as appropriate to the Under Secretary of

Defense for Policy.

What role do you see President Chavez playing in national elections throughout the Western Hemisphere area of operations?

See answer above.

How would you assess Venezuelan relations with Cuba and China vis-à-vis the national security interests of the United States?

In my view, Venezuela and Cuba have a close relationship.

Panama

How do you assess the current political and economic situation in Panama?

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar with the details of this situation. If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about them and their potential implications for DOD policy.

To what extent do you assess that the Panamanian government attempts to interdict the drug flow out of South America through Panama?

See the answer above.

What is your assessment of how Panama is protecting and maintaining the Panama Canal?

See the answer above.

How vulnerable is the Panama Canal to attack by terrorists, and what would be the consequences of an attack to U. S. national security interests?

See the answer above.

Forward Operating Locations

One of the elements of the counter-narcotics strategy in the Western Hemisphere is the establishment of forward operating locations (FOLs) in the source and transit zone. There is some concern that the Department has not deployed sufficient aircraft and other resources to these FOLs to justify sustainment costs and continued improvements. There is also concern that after U. S. investment of several million dollars in these facilities, the host

nations will restrict our use of these facilities. The Department is also losing one of its strategic locations (i.e. Manta, Ecuador) on the Pacific coast later this year.

In your view, what is the role that these FOLs play in the Department's counter-drug efforts?

My understanding is that the FOLs play a significant role in the Department's counternarcotics mission.

In your view, does current use continue to justify the costs of sustaining these locations?

From what I know now, it appears to me that the counternarcotics FOLs have more than justified their initial cost and annual upkeep.

Colombia

Under President Uribe's leadership, Colombia has improved its military performance in pursuing the paramilitary groups and their associated drug networks, and demonstrated an increased willingness and commitment to address and defeat the insurgency.

Please outline your views regarding the current situation in Colombia focusing upon: (1) the current military and political situation in Colombia; (2) the ability of the Colombian military to regain control of its territory; and (3) ongoing DOD programs, including the effects of the caps on U. S. troops and contractor personnel.

I have not had the opportunity to become familiar with the details of the situation in Colombia. If confirmed, I look forward to learning more about the current situation in Colombia and the implications for DOD policy, and making recommendations as appropriate to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

When the United States began providing increased support through Plan Colombia for Colombia's efforts to significantly reduce or eliminate paramilitary groups and their associated drug networks operating in their country, much concern was expressed about human rights abuses that the Colombian military forces had committed.

What is your assessment of the record of the Colombian military with regard to respect for human rights over the past three years?

See answer above.

Congressional Oversight

In order to exercise its legislative and oversight responsibilities, it is important that this Committee and other appropriate committees of the Congress are able to receive testimony, briefings, and other communications of information in a timely manner.

Do you agree, if confirmed for this high position, to appear before this Committee and other appropriate committees of the Congress?

Yes.

Do you agree, if confirmed, to appear before this Committee, or designated members of this Committee, and provide information, subject to appropriate and necessary security protection, with respect to your responsibilities as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs?

Yes.

Do you agree to ensure that testimony, briefings and other communications of information are provided to this Committee and its staff and other appropriate Committees?

Yes.

Do you agree to provide documents, including copies of electronic forms of communication, in a timely manner when requested by a duly constituted Committee, or to consult with the Committee regarding the basis for any good faith delay or denial in providing such documents?

Yes.