



VANGUARD

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News Highlights

Air security could involve private jets (New York Times, 01/06/09)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/06/business/06private.html?ref=business>

The Department of Homeland Security is proposing to extend to private aviation many of the security rules imposed on commercial airlines. Those include requiring fingerprint-based background checks on pilots, checking passenger names against a government watch list and restricting what items may be carried onto the airplane. The proposal could affect 10,000 previously exempt air operators, including not only wealthy businessmen, but also fractional jet ownership companies and even some recreational fliers.

States hope feds will help replace legacy systems (Computerworld, 01/05/09)

<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=printArticleBasic&taxonomyName=Government&articleId=331794&taxonomyId=13>

With President-elect Barack Obama proposing to spend billions of dollars on road and bridge projects as part of his economic stimulus plan, some state CIO's are hoping that their aging IT infrastructures might also qualify for makeovers. In an online survey of state CIO's conducted last summer by the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, nearly two-thirds of the 29 respondents said that between 40% and 80% of their IT setups consisted of legacy systems. And many reported that they were still running code written 20 or more years ago.

Countries in tug-of-war over Arctic resources (CNN, 01/02/09)

<http://edition.cnn.com/2009/TECH/science/01/02/arctic.rights.dispute/>

Diplomats, politicians and oil company executives are feuding over who owns what under the ice. But the real power players might be the geologists who evaluate undersea land formations. Unlike Antarctica, which has a treaty that prohibits territorial claims, there is no agreement for the vast expanse of the Arctic. So questions about drilling rights and shipping lanes, let alone who bears responsibility for environmental damage, are somewhat murky. Security expert John Pike, director of GlobalSecurity.org, thinks power in the Arctic may lie with whoever has the best physical access to this forbidding region. "The Russians have got a half-dozen icebreakers. Americans have a pair of icebreakers, but they are old and worn out," Pike said.

From the Wires this Week

Emergency Management/Homeland Security

FBI warns of cyber attack threat (Sydney Morning Herald, 01/07/09)

<http://news.smh.com.au/world/fbi-warns-of-cyber-attack-threat-20090107-7bot.html>

Cyber attacks pose the greatest threat to the United States after nuclear war and weapons of mass destruction - and they are increasingly hard to prevent, FBI experts say.

FCC's plans to boost public safety wireless interoperability meets obstacles (Government Technology, 12/22/08)

<http://www.govtech.com/dc/articles/573973>

Current FCC proceedings focus on creating a nationwide public-safety band for wireless communications among first responders. Although municipal CIOs and public safety leaders have welcomed reserving a band for interoperable public safety communications, details have proven hard to nail down. With the proceeding dragging into its third year, public safety representatives - frustrated with the lack of significant progress and faced with the daily difficulties associated with many noninterconnected systems - have begun to organize and weigh in.

Editorial: Wayward eye on the homeland (New York Times, 12/20/08)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/20/opinion/20sat3.html?th&emc=th>

The only course, if Congress is serious about guarding the nation, is to center homeland oversight and budgeting in single committees in the Senate and House. But reform will require more than just consolidating the oversight of national and military intelligence. Lawmakers must confront the monopoly of the hallowed appropriations panels by creating focused intelligence subcommittees with budget power. That is where true oversight begins.

Doomsday detectives battle nuclear terrorism (MSNBC, 12/19/08)

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28301954/>

The U.S. government has developed a suite of technologies that would enable it to determine the origin of a nuclear weapon used in an attack against the United States, according to a forthcoming book on America's nuclear detectives. In the event of such an attack, U.S. officials believe they could determine where the fissile material used in the nuclear weapon originated, as well as who carried out the assault.

Communications and Information Security

Data breaches up almost 50 percent, affecting records of 35.7 million people (Washington Post, 01/06/09)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/01/05/AR2009010503046.html?hpid=sec-business>

Businesses, governments and educational institutions reported nearly 50 percent more data breaches last year than in 2007, exposing the personal records of at least 35.7 million Americans, according to a nonprofit group that works to prevent identity fraud. Identity Theft Resource Center of San Diego is set to announce that some 656 breaches were reported in 2008, up from 446 in the previous year.

Nearly 37 percent of the breaches occurred at businesses, while schools accounted for roughly 20 percent of the reported incidents.

Transparency vs. privacy and security: What's an agency to do? (Government Technology, 12/29/08)
<http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/576906>

"Transparency" is an up-and-coming buzzword that is finding its way into the national conversation at the federal, state and local levels. But what does transparency mean for the agency head or IT manager who has been instructed to make his or her agency "more transparent"? What are some of the key issues and architectural considerations that need to be addressed?

U.S. computers still the source of most malware (ars technica, 12/23/08)

<http://arstechnica.com/news.ars/post/20081223-us-computers-still-the-source-of-most-malware.html>

The ISP shutdowns of 2008 may have cut the overall amount of spam flooding across the Internet, but the largest share of the world's malware is still being hosted right here in the United States. According to the most recent Sophos report, the U.S. hosts 37 percent of all malware sites followed by China (27.7 percent) and Russia (9.1 percent).

Training and Education

Combat program faces cuts: Army stresses importance of Future Combat Systems (El Paso Times, 01/06/09)

http://www.elpasotimes.com/news/ci_11382860

The Army's top leadership said the Future Combat Systems program is vital to the Army's modernization and will save lives even though there are indications that President-elect Barack Obama's administration will cut the \$200 billion program as it looks for money to bolster the nation's sagging economy. FCS, as it is called, is a program involving 20 separate systems meant to modernize the entire Army.

National Guard

MO Guardsmen committed to Kosovo's Adopt-A-School program (National Guard, 12/23/08)

http://www.ngb.army.mil/news/archives/2008/12/122308-MO_Guardsmen.aspx

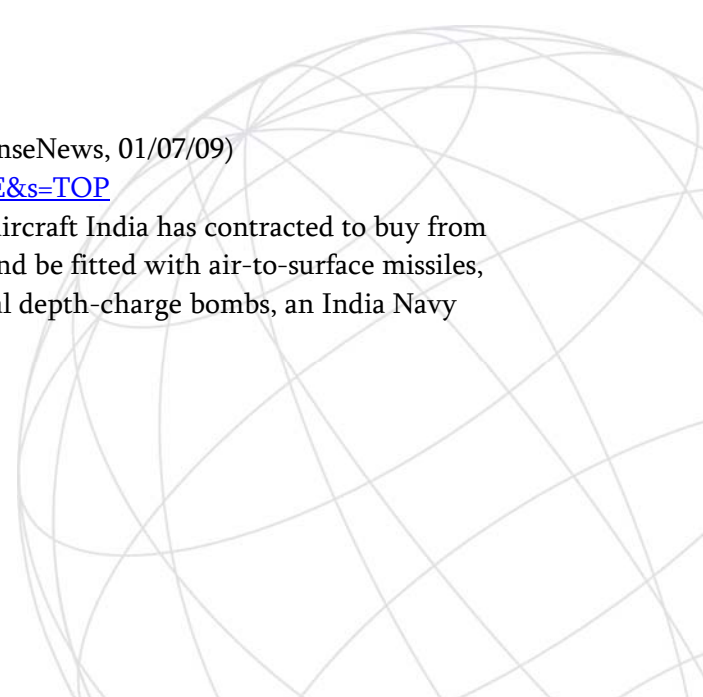
Since 2001, Missouri National Guard soldiers have adopted schools from all over Kosovo, through a voluntary community relations program carried out by soldiers. Since the program started, more than 200 schools in the MNTF-E sector have been adopted. Many of these schools are passed down from previous rotations and new schools are still being found.

Transportation Security

P-8 buy to expand India's networked maritime power (DefenseNews, 01/07/09)

<http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3890225&c=AME&s=TOP>

The six P-8I long-range maritime reconnaissance (LRMR) aircraft India has contracted to buy from Boeing will provide the Navy a broad array of capabilities, and be fitted with air-to-surface missiles, an internal bomb bay suite, sonar buoys, torpedoes and aerial depth-charge bombs, an India Navy official said.



Coast Guard may get new Arctic policy (Navy Times, 12/30/08)

http://www.navytimes.com/news/2008/12/coastguard_yearahead_123008w/

Commandant Adm. Thad Allen, who took command in 2006 with a goal of transforming the service, has repeatedly emphasized the importance of the Arctic, saying the melting of the ice caps, an increase in oil exploration and additional shipping and cruise routes in the polar region are taxing the fleet, which now must patrol areas that used to be ice.

Funding

Report finds mixed outcome on cutter (Federal Computer Week, 01/06/09)

<http://fcw.com/articles/2009/01/06/report-finds-mixed-outcome-on-cutter.aspx>

Despite improvements in its Deepwater acquisition structure during the last two years, the Coast Guard has had mixed results with its National Security Cutter program, according to a new report from the IBM Center for the Business of Government. The report also recommended improving the government's acquisition processes. The Coast Guard started the \$24 billion Integrated Deepwater Systems acquisition program in 2002 to replace boats, aircraft and other assets.

Energy Security

New national security strategy highlights Arctic (BarentsObserver, 01/02/09)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/new-national-security-strategy-highlights-arctic.4540802-16149.html>

A new Russian national security strategy will be adopted in February, Secretary of the Russian Security Council, Nikolay Patrushev confirms. The new strategy, which will cover the period until 2020, includes a high level of focus on the energy potentials of the Arctic. The new strategy presents the USA as Russia's continued main competitor in global affairs and the document underlines that Russia will protect its national interests with "a pragmatic foreign policy, [and] without engaging in expensive confrontation, including a new arms race".

Announcements

To receive an EMP briefing

The Institute of the North and the Claremont Institute in Claremont, California support state legislators and emergency management groups by providing briefings on electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack scenarios and preparedness. If you would like your committee or organization to receive one of these briefings, please contact the [Institute](#).

To receive a copy of *Missile Defense and the Role of the States*

In February 2007, the Institute of the North and the Claremont Institute published a report on *Missile Defense and the Role of the States*, a survey of Adjutants General on questions regarding missile defense and electromagnetic pulse. To receive a hard copy of the report, please contact the [Institute](#). You can also view the report online at: <http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/content/programs.html#security>.

To view the IWG report

The Institute of the North's Defense and Security program is a member of the Independent Working Group on Missile Defense, the Space Relationship, & the Twenty-First Century, a non-partisan group of defense experts who meet regularly to discuss issues and projects related to missile defense. To view the 2007 report online, please visit: <http://www.missilethreat.com/iwgreport/pageID.163/default.asp>.

To submit material

We are always looking for well-written editorials on the impact of national security at the state and local level. If you would like to submit an editorial for publication in the Vanguard newsletter, please forward factual and relevant articles of 500-750 words in length to the [Institute](#).

The Vanguard online

To view past and current issues of the Vanguard newsletter online, please visit: http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/content/security_and_defense_program.html.

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About the program

The Security and Defense program at the Institute of the North conducts research and educates policymakers on strategic issues relating to the defense of the United States that particularly concern decision makers in Alaska and at the state and local level throughout the nation.

The Institute of the North, based in Anchorage, Alaska, is a non-profit educational and research organization founded in 1994 by former Secretary of the Interior and twice Governor of Alaska Walter J. Hickel, focusing on strategic and natural resource issues.

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