



VANGUARD

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As it gets cold, note how the Cold War lives on...

By Mead Treadwell, Security and Defense Program, Institute of the North

Random notes from a Vanguard Editor, as the temperatures here at the Institute of the North dive below zero....

Maybe it is something in the water, maybe it is the fact that a major arms control treaty between the United States and Russia is up for renewal...or maybe it's the onset of winter cold.

But some rhetoric in the international sphere is sounding more like the Cold War than ever. We've still gone "MAD," maintaining weapons systems to deter attack from the premise of "mutually assured destruction" and discounting the value of missile defenses even as the real threat - asymmetrical warfare, where a missile might threaten the United States from an unnamed party - continues largely unabated.

First, the MAD part:

Our friend, Ilan Berman, of the American Foreign Policy Council, in his Russian Reform Monitor, cites an Oct. 14 Associated Press report:

Russia has the right to carry out preemptive nuclear strikes to protect its national security, a top military decision maker has said. In an interview with the newspaper *Izvestia* published during Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's visit to Moscow, Kremlin National Security Council secretary Nikolai Patrushev emphasized that his government - like that of the United States - is currently carrying out a nuclear posture review, designed to determine "a variety of possibilities for using nuclear force, depending on the situation and the intentions of the possible opponent." "In situations critical to national security, options including a preventative nuclear strike on the aggressor are not excluded," Patrushev said in the interview, the contents of which [were carried by the Associated Press](#).

And an Oct. 5 report:

[The Associated Press reports](#) that the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), the seven-nation security bloc headed by Moscow and intended to serve as a counterweight to NATO in Russia's "Near Abroad," has commenced massive military exercises in the south of Kazakhstan. The drills, which entail thousands of troops from Russia and four other CSTO members (Kazakhstan, Armenia, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan), are aimed at coordinating regional responses to terrorism and insurgent activities.

Then the "let's play along with MAD, rather than try to work together to reduce threats to us all" part, in an Oct. 13 report also cited by Berman:

As part of its reinvigorated arms control dialogue with the Kremlin, the Obama White House is throwing open the U.S. nuclear infrastructure to inspection. [According to Fox News](#), Russia and the U.S. have reached tentative agreement on a weapons inspection regime that would allow the Russian government to visit U.S. nuclear facilities and examine American stockpiles. The deal is part of ongoing discussions between Moscow and Washington about a new, post-START treaty arms control relationship, and is intended to provide the Russian government with greater insights into the U.S. strategic triad as part of confidence-building measures between the two countries. "We want to ensure that every question that the Russian military or Russian government asks is answered," Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has explained.

From the U.S. end, openness and confidence building appears to have two purposes. It has the clear intent of reducing tension with Russia but also - in the spirit of Cold War brinkmanship - behaving as a reminder that the doctrine of mutually assured destruction still applies as a deterrent.

For an American citizen, a state or local policymaker, this trend might be just as fun as the current hit television show about advertising men on Madison Avenue, *Mad Men*. But the danger of focusing on MAD, mutually assured destruction, is that it can discount what really needs to be done to build and maintain effective missile defenses from parties that may not fear - by the fact that they are "mad men," or by the fact they can launch from an "anonymous" return address, a missile attack on the United States.

Here's that thinking, from Air Force General Kevin Chilton no less, reported by [Reuters](#), Nov. 10:

A U.S. missile defense system that is too robust could actually backfire and become destabilizing, prompting countries like China to expand their nuclear arsenals, said Air Force General Kevin Chilton, commander of the U.S. Strategic Command. He did not question the current system, which was revised by President Barack Obama and the Pentagon in September, but he explained that careful calculations would be needed when boosting U.S. defenses in the future to guard against threats from countries like North Korea.

Republican critics say Obama's decision to refocus U.S. missile defenses in Europe on Iranian short- and medium-range missiles could leave the U.S. mainland and parts of Western Europe more vulnerable to attack from an Iranian intercontinental ballistic missile, or ICBM.

But the Pentagon has assured that the 30 ground-based interceptor missiles to be deployed in Alaska and California by the end of 2010 will provide the United States with full protection against an Iranian ICBM.

Chilton said missile defense was crucial against countries like North Korea and Iran because they might not fear the U.S. threat of retaliation - rendering the U.S. deterrence strategy used against Russia during the Cold War ineffective.

"It's not clear that pure nuclear might or conventional might would deter them if they had the ability to (strike) the United States or an ally, a friend in the region, with a nuclear-capable missile," Chilton said. "That's the compelling argument for missile defense."

From the Wires this Week

Missile Defense/Satellite Technology/EMP

Commentary: Securing our future through missile defense (The Tufts Daily, 11/19/09)

<http://www.tuftsdaily.com/securing-our-future-through-missile-defense-1.2091215>

Certainly the danger from short-range missiles is great, but we cannot discount the threat of long-range missiles in the near future, nor should we have to. Iran is pursuing its missile capabilities holistically, and we should pursue our defenses in a similar manner. We should deploy missile defenses against short-range missiles, but we also need to think about the bigger picture.

Additionally, in order to request, receive and put into action the funding required to deploy missile defenses against long-range missiles, we need to start now. If we wait until Iran has perfected its long-range capability, it will be too late to deploy defenses against it.

Northrop Grumman to support BMD early-intercept program (UPI, 11/19/09)

http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Security-Industry/2009/11/19/NG-to-support-BMD-early-intercept-program/UPI-65101258654572/

U.S. company Northrop Grumman was awarded the contract to provide the Missile Defense Agency with support for demonstration experiments designed to assess potential sensor technologies for early interception of missile threats. Officials say Northrop Grumman will be expected to design and develop an experimental command and control architecture that will enable an evaluation of sensors for countering medium and intermediate-range ballistic missile threats.

Air Force zaps drones in laser test (Wired, 11/18/09)

<http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2009/11/air-force-zaps-drones-in-laser-test/>

While ballistic missile defense may get all of the press, some homeland-security experts worry about a more low-tech threat: drone technology. In a recent series of tests at the Naval Air Warfare Center, China Lake, Calif., a trailer-mounted laser was able to knock five unmanned aircraft out of the sky. The demo, sponsored by the Air Force Research Laboratory, was a test of the Mobile Active Targeting Resource for Integrated eXperiments (MATRIX), an experimental system developed by Boeing Directed Energy Systems.

Lockheed and Raytheon to gain with new sea based focus on missile defense (bnet, 11/18/09)

<http://industry.bnet.com/government/10004107/lockheed-and-raytheon-to-gain-with-new-sea-based-focus-on-missile-defense/>

When the Obama Administration decided to end the investment in the long range ground based system developed by the Army and currently installed in Alaska and planned to be placed in Europe, it touted a new focus on the Navy sea based system. The AEGIS based naval system utilizes a missiles and radars built by Lockheed Martin (LMT) and Raytheon (RTN). The Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) on the island of Kauai has for years been used to test air defense systems and has slowly been upgraded to support ballistic missile tests. *Related link: [Senator Inouye proposes funding for critical missile defense test facility.](#)*

Commentary: New Russian-U.S. arms reduction treaty hampered by differences (RIA Novosti, 11/16/09)

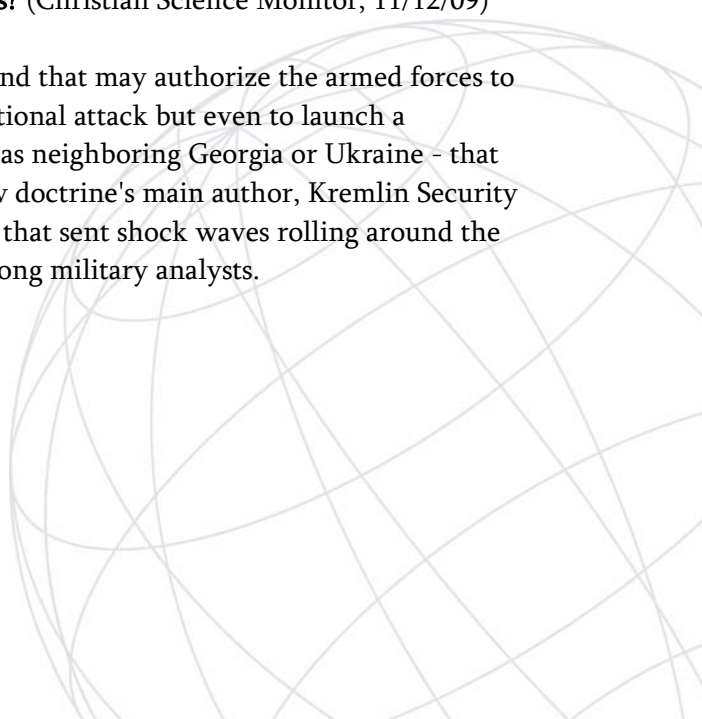
<http://en.rian.ru/analysis/20091116/156858364.html>

Russia and the United States cannot agree on a new strategic arms reduction treaty to replace the START-1, which will expire on Dec. 5, 2009. The problems concern control of mobile missile systems, cuts in delivery vehicles and a connection between the new treaty and limits on the deployment of ballistic missile defense systems. If the sides do not sign the new treaty, or if the treaty does not limit the deployment of ABM systems, this will actually restart a nuclear missile race, even if at a lower level than in the 1950s through 1980s.

Would Russia really use nuclear weapons against neighbors? (Christian Science Monitor, 11/12/09)

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2009/1117/p06s13-wogn.html>

The Kremlin is drafting a new military doctrine by year's end that may authorize the armed forces to use nuclear weapons not only to counter a massive conventional attack but even to launch a preemptive strike against a small regional adversary - such as neighboring Georgia or Ukraine - that might be deemed a threat to Russia. Or so declared the new doctrine's main author, Kremlin Security Council chief Nikolai Patrushev, in a newspaper interview that sent shock waves rolling around the world last month and generated a storm of controversy among military analysts.



Emergency Management

Emergency managers put to test (Omaha World-Herald, 11/19/09)

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20091119/NEWS01/711199899>

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) sponsored the state's annual terrorism-response exercise, called TERREX '09. Such exercises give participants a chance to practice how they should respond in a real emergency and allow officials to use Paraclete, a communications system that links agencies from across the state whose radios otherwise would be incompatible, organizers said.

Interop: New York tests Xbox-based alert system (Information Week, 11/19/09)

<http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/state-local/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=221900336>

New York state authorities are testing a plan that would see the Emergency Management Office issue alerts over online gaming networks in addition to regular channels. The goal, said New York State Deputy CIO Rico Singleton, is to reach younger residents who spend more time on the Xbox, PlayStation, or Wii than with television or radio. Microsoft, Sony and Nintendo operate online networks that allow players to compete against each other over the Internet. Under the state's plan, authorities would tap those networks to broadcast warnings about natural or man-made disasters.

Officials defend handling of flu vaccine (The New York Times, 11/17/09)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/18/health/policy/18flu.html>

At a hearing before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, representatives of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Homeland Security argued that they were right not to put immune-boosting adjuvants in the vaccine even though that could have quadrupled the number of doses available now, and that they were also right to leave decisions about allocating vaccine up to local health departments instead of trying to micromanage them from Atlanta or Washington.

Homeland Security

Fort Hood hearing focuses on homegrown threats, "political correctness" (The Washington Post, 11/19/09)

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/capitol-briefing/2009/11/fort_hood_hearing_focuses_on_h.html?hpid=topnews

The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee launched the first public hearing into the Fort Hood shooting attack with a focus on the perils of homegrown extremism and "political correctness" and with partial cooperation from the Obama administration. *Related article:* [Muslim leader calls Fort Hood review critical to national security.](#)

36 states may miss Real ID deadline (Stateline.org, 11/19/09)

<http://www.stateline.org/live/details/story?contentId=438447>

In a letter to congressional leadership on Nov. 18, the National Governors Association urged Congress to approve a replacement version of Real ID - known as Pass ID - that would give states more time

and flexibility to upgrade their driver's licenses, including the processes used to check applicants' identities. While legislation creating the replacement program is supported by the Obama administration and cleared the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee in July, it has not yet reached the floor of either chamber.

Government wants speedy screening at more airports (The Washington Post, 11/19/09)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/11/19/AR2009111903498.html>

The Homeland Security Department wants to expand speedy screening of preapproved, low-risk air travelers arriving in the United States to most international airports in the country through a voluntary program called Global Entry. Ultimately, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, a homeland security agency, plans to expand the program to include foreign travelers whose countries have an acceptable prescreening process.

Upcoming Homeland Security Summit a first for Kansas (WIBW.com, 11/18/09)

<http://www.wibw.com/localnews/headlines/70378362.html>

The first biennial Kansas Homeland Security Summit will be held Dec. 8-10 in Wichita for senior-level decision makers involved in homeland security response issues. "This working summit will provide an opportunity for Kansas leaders involved in homeland security preparedness planning and response to engage in discussions and work through disaster and terrorism scenarios," said Maj. Gen. Tod Bunting, director of Kansas Homeland Security, Kansas Division of Emergency Management, and the Adjutant General.

DHS considers contracts for collecting disaster-related imagery (Federal Computer Week, 11/13/09)

<http://fcw.com/Articles/2009/11/13/Web-DHS-FEMA-disaster-imagery.aspx>

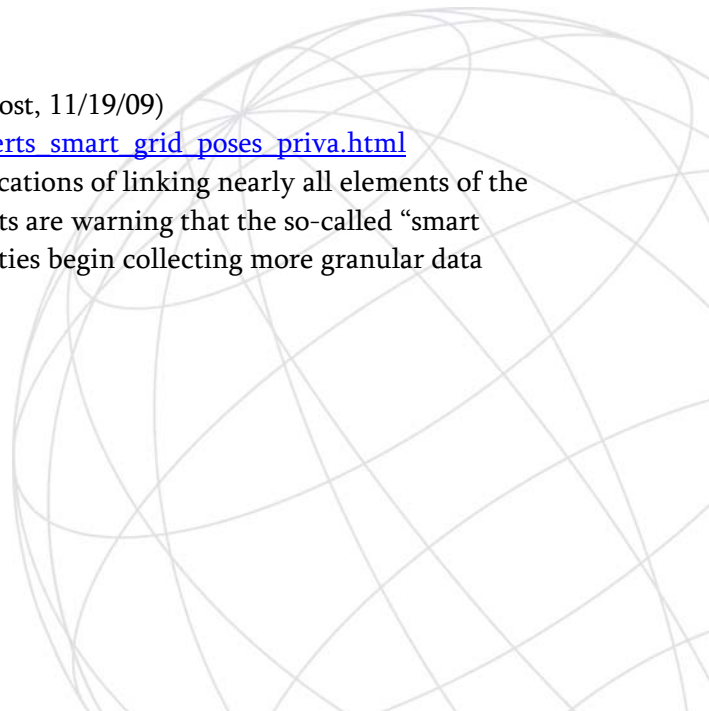
The Homeland Security Department is considering awarding multiple contracts to ensure that emergency officials can quickly get aerial images of disaster areas in a format that can easily be integrated into geographic information systems (GIS), according to a recently published request for information (RFI) from the department. Post-disaster imagery integrated with other spatial data in a GIS environment could be used for damage assessments, search and rescue, and hazardous materials release, DHS said.

Communications and Information Security

Experts: Smart grid poses privacy risks (The Washington Post, 11/19/09)

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/11/experts_smart_grid_poses_privacy.html

Technologists already are worried about the security implications of linking nearly all elements of the U.S. power grid to the public Internet. Now, privacy experts are warning that the so-called "smart grid" efforts could usher in a new class of concerns, as utilities begin collecting more granular data about consumers' daily power consumption.



Cyber warfare warning sounded (InformationWeek, 11/17/09)

<http://www.informationweek.com/news/security/cybercrime/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=221800427>

In Washington, the Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security held a hearing titled, "Preventing Terrorist Attacks, Countering Cyber Intrusions, and Protecting Privacy in Cyberspace," public and private sector experts emphasized the danger of cyber attacks and summarized efforts to address the risks. A report from computer security company McAfee, presented at the hearing, includes comments from government and private sector security experts and covers a variety of longstanding cybersecurity problems, ranging from reflexive information sharing problems that inhibit prosecution and threat mitigation to the difficulty that nations face in calibrating responses to cyber attacks. *Related articles: [FBI suspects terrorists are exploring cyber attacks](#); [Feds falling behind in the race against cyber threats](#), [GAO says](#)*

Transportation Security/Infrastructure

FAA computer failure reflects growing burden on systems (Government Computer News, 11/19/09)

<http://gcn.com/articles/2009/11/19/update-faa-software-hackers-delays.aspx>

The Federal Aviation Administration identified a serious computer problem and repaired it within about four hours Nov. 19, but the resulting air traffic delays took hours to unwind. The snag, which prevented the automatic filing of flight plans into FAA's National Airspace Data Interchange Network, was traced to a software configuration problem within the FAA Telecommunications Infrastructure in Salt Lake City. The incident provoked fears about hackers and cyberattacks, which proved to be unfounded. But it also renewed worries about FAA's aging information technology.

Related article: [New telecom setup blamed for U.S. ATC outage](#).

In nod to global warming, Navy preps for "ice free" Arctic (Wired, 11/18/09)

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=X&q=http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2009/11/in-nod-to-global-warming-navy-prepares-for-ice-free-arctic/&ct=ga&cd=BtGSep4LJW4&usg=AFQjCNGmb8fI8hEpVB-ITqiAd9rR-Ke-Dg>

The dwindling Arctic ice cap has launched an international race for control of northern waters: Russia, Canada, Denmark and even China are hustling to expand their military presence, plant flags and eye those 90 billion barrels of natural gas under the cap. Now the U.S. Navy's getting ready for the thaw, with a strategic plan to maximize the U.S. stake up north.

Maersk Alabama crew repels suspected pirate attack (MarineLink, 11/18/09)

<http://marinelink.com/en-US/News/Article/332535.aspx>

The U.S.-flagged *Maersk Alabama*'s security team repelled an attack from suspected pirates 560 nautical miles off the northeastern coast of Somalia, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command officials reported. Four suspected pirates in a skiff came within 300 yards of the *Maersk Alabama* and used small-arms weapons in an attempt to board the ship. The ship's security team responded with evasive maneuvers, long-range acoustic devices and small-arms fire, causing the suspected pirates to break off their attack. The acoustic devices emit a high-pitched sound that can be painful to human ears.

Related article: [Sailors seek to deter piracy](#).

Tight security at Memphis transportation hubs designed to deter threats (The Commercial Appeal [Memphis, TN], 11/18/09)

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2009/nov/18/terror-scarers/>

Transportation Security Administration officers on the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response team held a deliberately conspicuous exercise at downtown Memphis transportation terminals. “The whole idea is to be proactively visible to deter any possible terrorist activity,” said Kevin McCarthy, TSA federal security director in Memphis.

National Guard

Army data show constraints on troop increase potential (The Washington Independent, 11/18/09)

<http://washingtonindependent.com/68174/army-data-shows-contraints-on-troop-increase-potential>

If President Obama orders an additional 30,000 to 40,000 troops to Afghanistan, he will be deploying practically every available U.S. Army brigade to war, leaving few units in reserve in case of an unforeseen emergency and further stressing a force that has seen repeated combat deployments since 2002.

Clemson trains S.C. National Guard agriculture team for Afghanistan (Fresh Plaza, 11/18/09)

http://www.freshplaza.com/news_detail.asp?id=54237

Twelve of the 64 members in the unit of the S.C. Army National Guard were trained during the summer by Clemson University extension and Public Service Activities to help Afghan farmers with agricultural techniques as part of the guard’s Afghanistan Agribusiness Development Team. The U.S. military recognized the need for such teams in late 2007. Across Afghanistan, Agriculture Development Teams from more than a dozen states, including Indiana, Tennessee and Texas, have helped Afghan farmers with their agricultural endeavors.

National Guard Association of Tennessee 2010 state conference in Murfreesboro (Tennessean.com, 11/18/09)

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/D4/20091118/NEWS01/91118020/National+Guard+Association+of+Tennessee+2010+state+conference+in+Murfreesboro>

The National Guard Association of Tennessee’s (NGATN) 81st annual state conference will bring together the soldiers and airman of the Tennessee Army and Air National Guard to hear from political and military leaders addressing issues that are specific to the National Guard.

Bill aids NH Air Guard, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (Nashua Telegraph, 11/17/09)

<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/News/StateNewEngland/439301-227/bill-aids-nh-air-guard-portsmouth-naval.html>

The U.S. Senate has passed a bill that would provide millions of dollars in funding for improvements to the Pease Air National Guard Base and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Funding included in the military construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill would be used to replace squadron operations facilities at the Air Guard base, helping to consolidate command communications and improve coordination and overall operational efficiency. Also included is more than \$9 million for security improvements to gates at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

NATO

U.S., NATO officials tackle interoperability (U.S. Department of Defense News, 11/18/09)

<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=56760>

U.S. and NATO security experts participating in Concept Development and Experimentation Conference workshops are pondering U.S.-NATO interoperability issues such as countering hybrid threats, security force assistance, strategic communications and deterring nonstate actors, said Navy Rear Adm. Dan W. Davenport, chief of U.S. Joint Forces Command's joint concept development and experimentation directorate. One insight that surfaced at the conference is "the need to embed strategic communications in every aspect of operations and making that a part of the planning and execution of the operations themselves," Davenport said.

Announcements

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. The report is available online:

<http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/download?id=304>.

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 2009 report online, please visit: <http://www.institutenorth.org/servlet/download?id=564>.

To submit material

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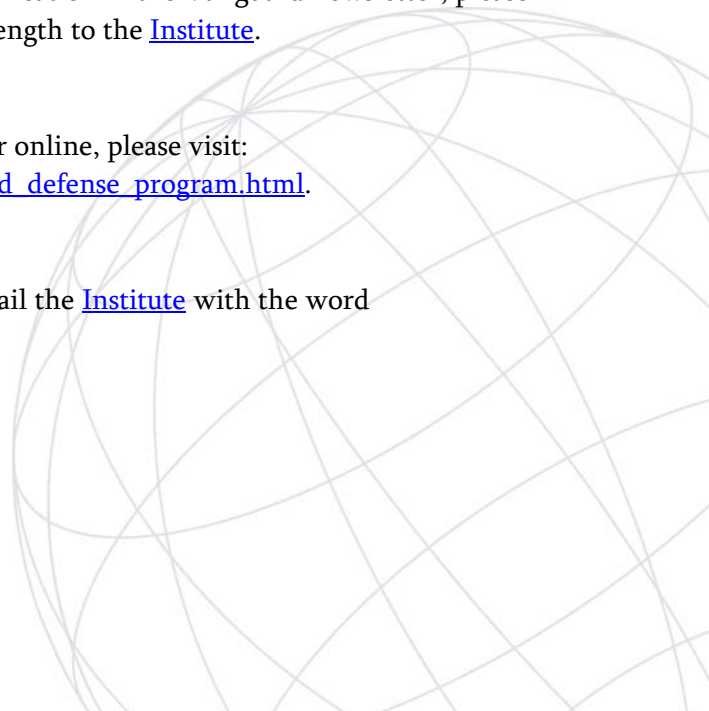
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The Security and Defense program at the Institute of the North conducts research and educates policymakers on strategic issues relating to the defense of the United States that particularly concern decision makers in Alaska and at the state and local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

The Institute of the North · 509 West Third Avenue, Suite 107 · Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907.771.2444 · Fax: 907.771.2466

