



Homeland Security

Homeland Security Advisory Council Summary of Teleconference Held on April 28, 2005

The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) held a public conference call on April 28, 2005, convening at 3:00 p.m. EST.

The HSAC convened via teleconference for the purposes of: 1) receiving reports from the Intelligence and Information Sharing Working Group and the Task Force on Maritime Security (HSPD -13); and 2) holding roundtable deliberations and discussions among HSAC members.

In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the public conference call was open to the public from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Council Members Attendance:

Joseph J. Grano, Jr., Chair
Judge William Webster, Vice Chair
Kathleen Bader
Frank Cilluffo
Jared Cohen
Ruth David
Richard Andrews
Lee Hamilton
Governor Mitt Romney
Lydia Thomas
Mayor Patrick McCrory
Duane Ackerman

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Staff Attendance:

Daniel Ostergaard, Homeland Security Advisory Council, Executive Director
Richard Davis, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Jeff Gaynor, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Mike Miron, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Candace Stoltz, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Kathryn Knapp, Homeland Security Advisory Council staff
Carlos Kizzee, Office of General Counsel
Valerie Smith, Office of Public Affairs

Reference Materials:

Both the HSPD-13 and Homeland Security Intelligence and Information Fusion reports have been made available via the HSAC web page at www.dhs.gov/hsac.

Meeting:

Chairman Grano called the HSAC to order and introduced Governor Mitt Romney, chair of the Intelligence and Information Sharing Working Group.

Governor Romney presented the Working Group's report, *Intelligence and Information Sharing Initiative: The Final Report Homeland Security Intelligence and Information Fusion*. The report is a consensus document reached by all members of the Working Group (participant representation included State and local, law enforcement, as well as homeland security advisors). As requested by the HSAC in December 2004, the Working Group was tasked to develop a series of functional requirements to guide the state, local and tribal entities' development of fusion centers. The report recognized every level of government and the private sector, in particular, has a role in the fusion process. It also cited that each individual jurisdiction and region implementing a fusion center must take into account varying needs and capabilities.

Governor Romney defined "fusion" for purposes of this report as the flow of information across different sectors of government and the private sector as it relates to sharing and using terrorist related information. The creation of fusion centers is not just the establishment of a center and computer network. It is designed to be an ongoing process that involves the blending of information from three or four major sources.

The report lists a number of factors that are critical to effective intelligence and information fusion. Those factors include:

1. Establish common terminology to be used by all stakeholders;
2. Create an up-to-date awareness of global and domestic threats so that all parties are privy to that information;
3. Create an understanding of the linkages between terrorism and non-terrorism information so that stakeholders can recognize the precursors or indicators of emerging threats;
4. Formulate intelligence and information requirements that prioritize and guide planning, collection and analysis;
5. Understand and eliminate impediments to information collection and sharing;

6. Share extensive and continuous information with the Private Sector and the public at large; and
7. Commit to ensure oversight and accountability to protect against the infringement of constitutional protections and civil liberties of American citizens.

The Working Group recommends:

1. Each state establish and maintain an analytical center to facilitate the fusion process. The information gathering and response processes need to be as agile and adaptive as our enemies;
2. Up-to-date information must be provided to the fusion centers;
3. The State, local and tribal entities along with law enforcement and first responders must take an active role in the intelligence and information gathering;
4. Each state or major urban fusion center link directly to a single federal hub which will be responsible for collecting and blending information from other fusion centers.

Governor Romney concluded his presentation. Chairman Grano indicated a transmittal memo would be drafted to be sent to the Secretary along with the report.

Chairman Grano introduced Frank Cilluffo to begin his presentation on Maritime Security and HSPD-13. The Task Force was given a very short turn around time so rather than a comprehensive review, the Task Force provided specific recommendations that could be helpful to the inter-agency implementation process.

The Task Force reviewed three plans: Maritime Transportation System Security; Maritime Commerce Security; and Maritime Infrastructure Recovery Security. Mr. Cilluffo began discussing the Maritime Transportation System Security Plan as the Task Force felt it was the most mature of the three plans. However, the plan does lack specificity in regards to assigning responsibility for implementation of the plan. The plan also lacks performance metrics.

The plan includes training requirements, however, there is no mandate for a comprehensive exercise. This general exercise would reduce the likelihood of “stove pipe” perspectives. The Task Force believed that the education was a major gap.

The Task Force also believed the Maritime Transportation Security System Plan focused too much attention on the seaward threat and did not devote enough attention to port security and specifically the ability to disable critical infrastructure. Finally, the funding request of the Maritime Transportation System Security Plan was vague. There was a need to build a business case to support the funding request.

Mr. Cilluffo then called on Seth Stodder to discuss the Maritime Commerce Security Plan. Mr. Stodder explained the general consensus was that this plan did not take into account a forward looking vision. More guidance should be provided as to the strategy the Department of Homeland Security should take in the future. Also, the group believed the plan was too US centric and focused on US borders – and that the Department needed to assert leadership more in the global community. The last observation from this group involved the nuclear threat and its pre-eminence.

Mr. Cilluffo then discussed the Maritime Infrastructure Recovery Plan. The Plan was created to establish a coordinated approach for rapid recovery or maritime transportation capabilities from incidents of national significance, and those bearing the potential harmful effect on the US economy. The Task Force believed that this plan did not integrate enough with the other two existing maritime plans and believed it should build upon the National Response Plan. The Task Force felt that the plan was a set of recommendations as opposed to an implementation plan.

Mr. Cilluffo concluded his presentation. Chairman Grano indicated a transmittal memo would be drafted to be sent to the Secretary along with the report.

The public conference call was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. EST.

Public Attendance:

More than 20 members of the public were on a “listen only” mode. The Homeland Security Advisory Council received the following public comment.

Captain Ted Thompson (National Maritime Security Advisory Council member) and myself were listening in on today's conference call and we believe the following concern needs to be addressed.

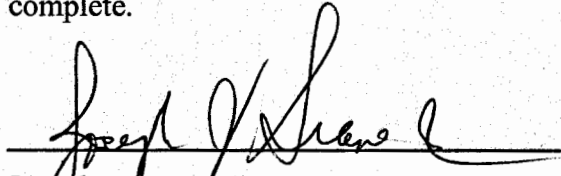
As the Governor was reporting on Fusion Centers, he related how the national strategy must include the ability of all segments of society, public and private sectors to relay information into the fusion center for review. We would concur with that statement wholeheartedly. One of the best sources of information in and around the seaport is the merchant sailors who will know immediately if something or someone is "not right." However, of late, the policies on the ground level in the seaports have done more to alienate the merchant seamen of the world than to recognize them as the resource of intelligence on the waterfront that they actually are.

The point we are trying to make is that the national strategy must ensure that all segments of the public AND private sectors are recognized for the value that they can contribute.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide these comments.

*Regards,
Stanford W. Deno
Director of Operations
International Council of Cruise Lines*

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph J. Grand, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph J. Grand, Jr.
Chairman
Homeland Security Advisory Council