Border security, port security, intelligence & homeland security

Name

Course

Instructor

Date

Economic impact of border protection

1. Smart borders are the boundaries between countries meant to improve efficiency in the administration of borders and bring mutual benefits to both sides of the border. The smart border accord was signed between the US and Canada in 2001, and also covers parts of the US Mexican border. The main aim was to ease congestion and improve surveillance of the border. Through increased cooperation and border patrols there is increased ease in movement of goods facilitating international trade, but also facilitating security by minimizing the possibility of terrorist threats in America[1].

2. Intellectual Property (IP) thefts relates to patents, trademarks, designs and copyright infringement without the owner's permission. IP violations can be rendered undesirable and unprofitable through more rigorous laws to combat IP violations, and increasing protection of intellectual property through anti counterfeiting programs. Enforcing IP violations is necessary as this reduces smuggling across national borders[2]. Similarly, it acts as a deterrent to IP violations but there should be criteria to distinguish organized criminals ordinary consumers and innovators. Most laws against IP violations focus on digital infringement without distinguishing users. Loss of billions through IP violations imposes a heavy burden through reduced competitiveness, and disrupts fair competition in the market. Thus, enforcing laws against IP violations instills confidence on the regulator's ability to deal with IP threats.

---

[1] Peter Andreas, *Border games: policing the U.S.-Mexico divide*. (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2009), 165-166.

[2] Andreas, *Border Games*,20.

3. Executive order 13,133 relates to combating human trafficking, and was an amendment to Executive order 13527. President Bush reaffirmed the government's commitment to create relevant policies to combat international trafficking through the executive branch. This is a follow up on border security because it requires the collaboration of countries to combat the vice and strengthen local communities in dealing with human trafficking.

Internet use improves communication, but there are also increased cases of IP theft through computer crimes and illegal infiltration of computer systems. Even though, there is increased efficiency in many sectors the threat of computer crimes slows down business and can cause massive losses to businesses. Thus, there is a need to have balance in combating economic crimes and ensuring that there is respect of privacy for internet users.

Marine safety, control, operations, emergency and terrorism

1. There is a connection between the US port facilities and Homeland security on the threat of cyber terrorism. Most port facilities are interconnected through computer systems to facilitate movement of goods and the nation's security is also at risk from the vulnerabilities of the computer networks. Thus, Homeland security and the US Coast Guard need to ensure that there is adequate security in the ports. Marine safety is a top priority for the Homeland Security, although there are fewer efforts to upgrade the infrastructure of ports than other sectors of the economy. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection which is an agency of the Homeland Security is tasked with protecting ports and the maritime environments as well as facilitate trade and technology is important to achieve this.

2. A Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) is the method devised for a port facility to carry on operations in case of emergency with a view to resume full operations[3]. The planning

[3] Kenneth, Christopher. *Port Security Management*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group, 2009, 242

takes place to ensure that the port management runs smoothly in a way that facilitates sustainability when there are disasters and emergencies. Coordination of activities is paramount as this facilitates easier access to the port facilities among the parties involved. In planning operations during emergencies, it is necessary to delegate roles among the parties, and the planning should also make it easier for personnel to retrieve information.

3. Situational awareness and readiness affect the way port authorities communicate and share information. Through situational awareness, it is possible to issue alerts and ensure adequate preparation. Similarly, situational readiness manage facilitates port safety and improves emergency management as information is easily accessed by parties[4]. Situational awareness and readiness facilitates protection and rapid response as there is easier coordination of activities during emergencies. Situational awareness precedes situational readiness where measures are put in place before there is response in mitigating risks for anticipated emergencies.

4. Technology is an integral part of port facility security where ports are able to adapt business models in line with port security requirements[5]. In essence, port facilities now integrate business models with port facilities in a way that increase efficiency of ports while also integrating security measures in the system. In particular, the ability to verify and record all persons working and entering the port facilities ensures that there is no infiltration by outsiders. Additionally, the staff is able to verify arrival and departures of goods electronically and their corresponding authorization. One of the most significant uses of technology in port facilities is

---

[4]Kenneth, Christopher, Port Security, 251

[5] Kenneth, Christopher. *Port Security Management*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group, 2009, 247

verification of credentials through use of bio metrics where information is relayed to one center to ensure that all persons do not pose a threat to the port facilities.

Reducing Cognitive and perceptual biases in analysis

Cognitive and perpetual biases occur in analysis, and hence there is a need to reduce biases in evaluating evidence. Perpetual biases occur because of what we expect, and hence it is necessary to have more unambiguous information to reduce risk of biasness. Perpetual biases result to wrong interpretation of information because it is based on inaccurate assumptions. People's perceptions often cloud their judgment even when presented with new evidence. This typically occurs because of exposure to ambiguities and new evidence does not change the perception already formed[6].

Analysis of competing hypothesis is another technique that facilitates proper judgment and analysis when provided with alternatives. This technique works by first identifying at once the alternative outcomes rather than evaluating their appropriateness separately[7]. In essence, this technique overcomes the conventional view where analysts choose the alternative that seems best through intuition, and then use evidence to support their claims and decision. In the event that the evidence supports the claim, then analysts suppose that their intuition is right. On the other hand, if evidence does not support claim they tend to assume that information is misleading and potentially look for another hypothesis. The technique has eight steps begin with a review of competing hypothesis to making analytical conclusions.

---

[6] U.S. Government. *A tradecraft primer: Structured analytic techniques for improving intelligence analysis*. McLean, VA: Sherman Kent School's Center for Analytic Tradecraft, US Central Intelligence Agency, 2009, 2

[7] Richards, Heuer.Chapter 8, *Analysis of Competing Hypotheses*. Psychology of intelligence analysis. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office,1999

There are other techniques that help to reduce biasness in analysis and these could include a checklist for analysts providing a general overview of techniques applicable[8]. The first step involves focuses on the problem, where questions pertaining to the problem are framed and information collaborated with policy makers. Generating hypotheses is the next logical step through which one identifies all the possible hypotheses and includes collaboration with experts to broaden the scope of the hypotheses. Collecting information to help in analysis follows and is closely related to evaluating the hypotheses from the information gathered. In evaluating hypotheses it is necessary to determine whether the assumptions influence the conclusion. Choosing the most likely hypothesis is dependent on the evidence available, but further analysis is necessary especially if significant change occurs that may change the outcome of decisions. Ultimately, it is training, research and exposure to different alternative mindsets that ensures that analysts get knowledge on how to conduct proper analysis and reduce bias.

In reducing the likelihood of bias in decision making, it is necessary to highlight on judgmental gaps. Using conventional wisdom in analysis situations may result to potential wrong analysis in security matters because of the judgmental gap. Thus use of systematic analysis when faced with numerous alternatives is the best course of action. Additionally, this leaves a trail and it is possible to justify the reasons for choosing one alternative over the others. Thus, analytical tools are important in decision making as mental models typically occur through people's perception and this may introduce bias because of being selective on information.

[8] Richards, Heuer (Chapter 14, Improving Intelligence Analysis. Psychology of intelligence analysis. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office,1999

Bibliography

Andreas, Peter. *Border games: policing the U.S.-Mexico divide*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2009.

Christopher, Christopher. *Port Security Management*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group, 2009.

Heuer, R. Chapter 8, Analysis of Competing Hypotheses. Psychology of intelligence analysis. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office,1999.Retrieved from https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/psychology-of-intelligence-analysis/art11.html

Heuer, R. Chapter 14, Improving Intelligence Analysis. Psychology of intelligence analysis. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1999. Retrieved from https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/psychology-of-intelligence-analysis/art17.html

U.S. Government. (2009). A tradecraft primer: Structured analytic techniques for improving intelligence analysis. McLean, VA: Sherman Kent School's Center for Analytic Tradecraft, US Central Intelligence Agency. Retrieved from: www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/books-and-monographs/Tradecraft%20Primer-apr09.pdf