Counter Narcotics NSWBCN Strategy

Description Background - Throughout this course, you will prepare a Key Assignment in the form of a comprehensive written case study analysis of a nationallevel policy that is reflected in and drawn from the National Southwest Border Counternarcotics (NSWBCN) Strategy (2011). As dramatized in the movie Act of Valor, in which U.S. Navy Seals interdicted foreign terrorists attempting to smuggle jihadists from Mexico into the United States, this international border represents an acute vulnerability to national security, the region, and homeland security—making it a local, state, tribal, and federal flashpoint. Many analysts believe that if drug cartels can successfully smuggle illegal contraband via various conveyances across the Southwest border (SWB), and move billions of dollars of bulk cash back to operatives south of the border, then terrorist elements could exploit this same network for nefarious purposes. This troubling premise matches the challenges of professional policymakers at local, state, and federal levels of the U.S. government, and provides the context for a salient examination of all elements of homeland security and the government. You will focus on the NSWBCN Strategy for all aspects of the Key Assignment, resulting in the final written analysis that assembles each element of the course. This assignment will initially involve the creation of a case study involving the threat of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) being smuggled across the U.S. border with Mexico. This case study will serve as the operational scenario informing the balance of the project, and will evolve into a comprehensive analysis comprised of and supported by cumulative weekly assignments during each phase of the course, including a proposal to address the security challenges of this volatile border region. Against the realistic backdrop of persistent criminal activity, including human smuggling, narcotrafficking, cross-border violence, movement of undocumented migrants, and law enforcement challenges, conduct your research using the NSWBCN Strategy (2011), promulgated by the White House and the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Assignments this week 5 and 6 Section 5: National Protection and Preparedness This week, you will provide a comprehensive summary of the specific elements of the National Southwest Border Counternarcotics (NSWBCN) Strategy, offering an executive overview of the 10 chapters. In your assignment, identify the relevant supporting ligaments of the policy that directly or indirectly support state-level protection and preparedness. Building on your case study scenario, craft a 2-page memorandum to the governors of the border states that you have determined to have homeland security equities on the Southwest border (SWB). Be sure to include the following: • Page 1: You should outline the specific chapters of the NSWBCN Strategy. • Page 2: You should explain how their contents and supporting language might support their state-level objectives and serve as potential justification for requesting federal grants or congressional appropriations. Include useful bibliographic references. Section 6: National Response and Resilience This week, you will draw from your case study to explain the nexus of the SWB and the associated risks and vulnerabilities to a critical infrastructure (CI) protection plan. Identify what policies and procedures should be in place within the interagency to ensure the appropriate response and resilience given the multithreat environment that exists at the SWB. Drawing from the case study and relevant themes in the NSWBCN Strategy, draft a 2-page policy proposal that includes the following: • Page 1: Explain how SWB-related critical infrastructure protection (CIP), response, and resilience imperatives should be fully integrated into future versions of Department of Homeland Security (DHS) strategies and policies. • Page 2: Make general recommendations that would be appropriate for DHS planners to consider when updating these documents.