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Homeland Security Digital Library Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Our Inaugural Newsletter



Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Homeland Security Digital Library (HSDL) Newsletter. This quarterly publication will help you get the full benefit from your HSDL account by showing you the many aspects of the site, reacquainting you with the HSDL if you haven't been here in a while, and keeping you aware of our latest additions in homeland security policy and strategy information.

Featured Topic: Sea Piracy



Featured Topics is one of the unique elements of the HSDL. Documents associated with primary or particularly relevant topics or current issues in homeland security policy and strategy are identified and compiled into targeted groups.

One of our current *Featured Topics* discusses the urgent issue of sea piracy. This selection of documents includes information on ways to combat pirates and piracy and highlights the increased violence and frequency of one of the oldest crimes in the world. How sea piracy funds terrorist organizations and wars and can cause ecological damage and inflation is discussed in *Piracy in Somalia: Threatening Global Trade, Feeding Local Wars*. Also included in the collection is

the *Daily International Vessel Casualties & Pirates Daily Report*, a website which indexes international piracy incidents, and a thesis titled *Maritime Terrorism and the Small Boat Threat to the United States: A Proposed Response* which examines the risk of attacks in U.S. waters by terrorists using small boats.

You can navigate to all our *Featured Topics* on the right side of the homepage boxed within the *Highlights* of the *General Collection*, or you may access the page directly.

N1H1 Influenza Virus

The HSDL is tracking authoritative sources on the N1H1 influenza virus and adding critical documents and reports to our collection as they are released. For links to websites and emerging pandemic influenza reports, please check in on our *On the Homefront* blog and our *Pandemic Influenza Featured Topic*.

Are You a Blog Aficionado?



Have you become a blogger? Yes? So has HSDL. We feature our own blog, *On the Homefront* which is open to the public, so feel free to share this link as you get regular updates on the latest homeland security news and reports.

Unlike a traditional commentary based blog, the HSDL blog is a source of the most recent critical reports and issues in homeland security. Our staff has an excellent record of blogging the most critical reports as soon as they are released. The librarians at the Homeland Security Digital Library have also evaluated and selected over seventy of the best homeland security-related blogs out on the open web. Click here to search these blogs.

Now it's your turn. Do you have a favorite homeland security-related blog? Send the link to hSDL@nps.edu for possible inclusion in our list. If you are interested in becoming an HSDL blogger, please register here.

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Tell Us What You Think

This newsletter is being published for your benefit as an HSDL account holder and user of this online resource. Please let us know what you think. Suggest articles, let us know what would help you make better use of the HSDL, give us ideas about subjects for *Featured Topics*, or comment on anything else you want to share regarding the newsletter. Please send your suggestions or comments to dprantz@nps.edu. Thank you.

Pass It On

Please feel free to share this newsletter with other homeland security professionals. We invite all U.S. homeland security officials, members of the military and academics to utilize the HSDL for research, analysis, and policy and strategy development. New patrons may register to request access.

Manage Your Alerts

This newsletter is published and emailed quarterly. You may unsubscribe by managing your HSDL alert settings.

How To: Get Better Search Results

Do you find you regularly get too many hits when you search and you don't know how to refine your results? We can help!

A "basic" or "quick" default search looks for keywords across all fields. A simple way to get better results is to use the "advanced" or "guided" search to narrow the number of returns. Easy ways to narrow your search include:

- **Exact Phrase** — When you are looking for a specific phrase, put it in quotes or type it into the "Exact phrase" box. This includes the obvious [e.g. "weapons of mass destruction"] and the less obvious [e.g. "homeland security" or "air force"]
- **Without the Words** — Get more focused searches by excluding terms that are cluttering up your results with irrelevant hits.
- **Any of The Words** — Use this field if there are acronyms, synonyms or spelling variations that would help with your search.
- **Title** — If you are looking for a specific document and you know the title or some of the words in the title, go to the "term in any field" box and drop down to select "title". This also works well if you want to see results that have select words in the title [e.g. "emergency preparedness" or "Patriot Act"].
- **Author** — If you are looking for something by an author rather than a reference to an author, choose "by author" in the "term" field and enter the writer's name.

What is the GPO?



Have you noticed GPO listed as the publisher of a document and wondered who they are? The Government Printing Office (GPO) has been the official printing entity for the US Government for over 140 years.

Government documents and information including laws, regulations, congressional information, and even passport covers, fall under the management and authority of the GPO. The GPO also oversees the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Libraries participating in the Federal Depository program receive materials produced by the GPO free of charge and in turn, archive them and make them freely available to the public.

Homeland security-related GPO documents are included in a search of the HSDL's General Collection. If you want to limit your search results to GPO documents only, look under the "Refine by Publisher" heading in the right column and choose Government Printing Office.

Behind the Scenes at the HSDL

You use the library, you find what you need — but what is the HSDL and who makes it happen?

The HSDL is the nation's premier collection of documents related to homeland security policy, strategy, and organizational management. The HSDL is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA and the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Resources are carefully selected and evaluated by a team of subject—matter specialists and librarians who research the content, describe its key components, catalog the content, and staff the virtual *Ask a Librarian desk*. The technical team makes sure all this carefully selected material is available to you as soon as possible. They keep the site running and secure 24/7 so you have access when you need it.

The HSDL is committed to "Securing the Homeland through the Power of Information," and our team strives to make the Homeland Security Digital Library your top resource for trusted homeland safety and security information.

Featured Partnership: Federal Depository Libraries



The HSDL has partnered with the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) to provide access to specific areas of the HSDL's collection of homeland security policy, strategy and management information. To learn more about this partnership or if your organization is eligible and has not already established access, please go to FDLP.