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## PREFACE

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This report addresses the many conceptual, programmatic, and practical issues associated with an emergent mission area for the U.S. Army and Department of Defense (DoD) called “homeland security” (until recently the mission was known as “homeland defense”).

At the most basic level, the report seeks to provide Army and other DoD audiences with an introduction to, and overview of, four of the five homeland security task areas,<sup>1</sup> and the various organizations at the federal, state, and local level that the Army and DoD may need to interface with under different circumstances. More ambitiously, it seeks to define homeland security in a concrete way and to provide the necessary background and conceptual and analytic constructs for wrestling with the key issues and choices the Army will face as the mission area matures.

The research reported here was initiated as homeland security was emerging as an issue of policy concern and was conducted during Fiscal Year 1999, a year in which the Army and Department of Defense considered but had not yet resolved many key homeland security-related issues. These include a definition of homeland security, the key task areas that constitute homeland security, and the programs and capabilities needed to respond to these various threats. In a similar vein, the broader federal government enacted or

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<sup>1</sup>Because it already is the focus of substantial analytic attention, national missile defense is not addressed in this report.

refined numerous programs to combat terrorism and weapons of mass destruction and to mitigate the threat to critical infrastructure.

While we have made every effort to stay apprised of these developments, the complexity and dynamism of the broader policy environment led to a conscious choice to focus on broad issues, principles, and options in this report, rather than specific organizational solutions. Indeed, at the time the report was being completed, a new Unified Command Plan (UCP) was announced, specifying responsibilities for some homeland security activities. We have, nevertheless, provided observations regarding organizational issues where we felt it useful and appropriate.

The research was sponsored by the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations and Plans, Headquarters, Department of the Army, and was conducted in the Arroyo Center's Strategy, Doctrine, and Resources Program, and was concluded in September 1999. The Arroyo Center is a federally funded research and development center sponsored by the U.S. Army.

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