Structuring a Strategic Vision for the United States in the War on Terrorism

....work in progress

16 June 2003

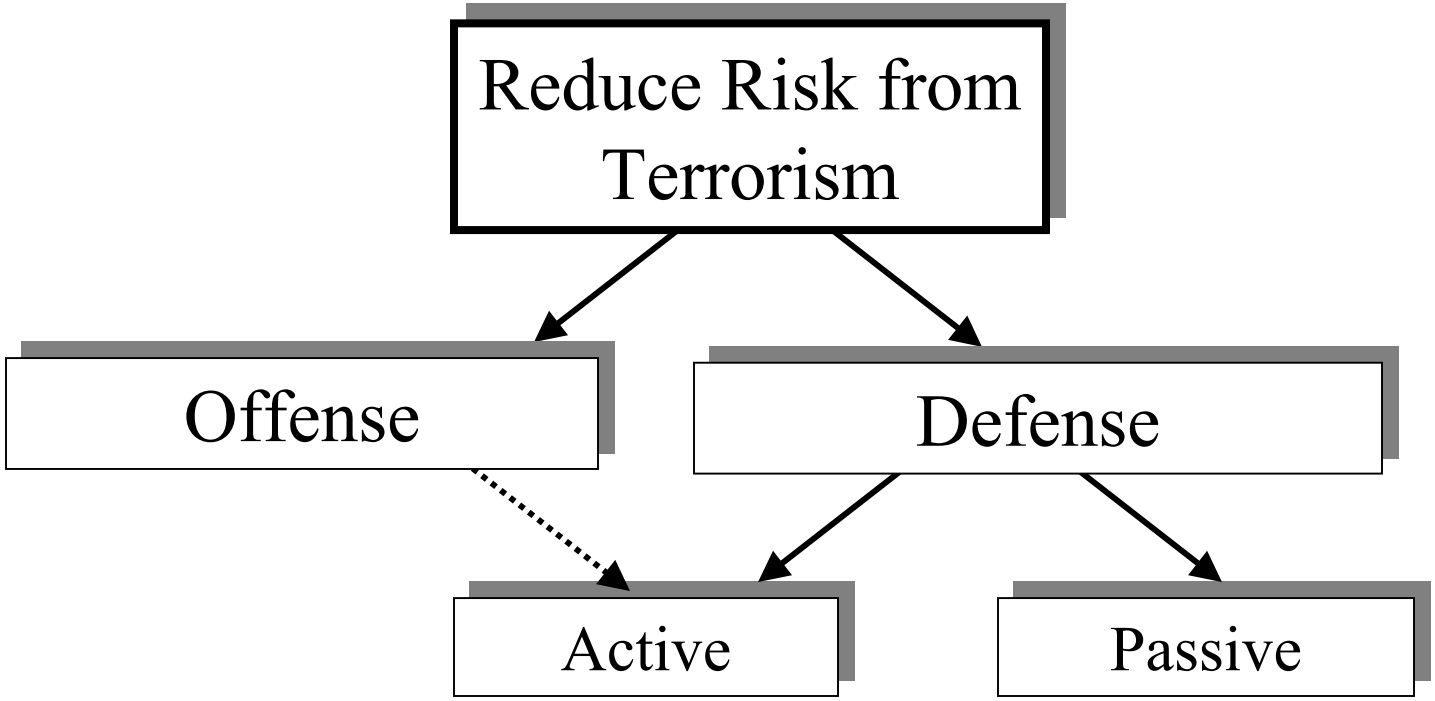
Define "Strategic"…
…in the Context of the War on Terrorism

"Strategic" from the Dictionary:

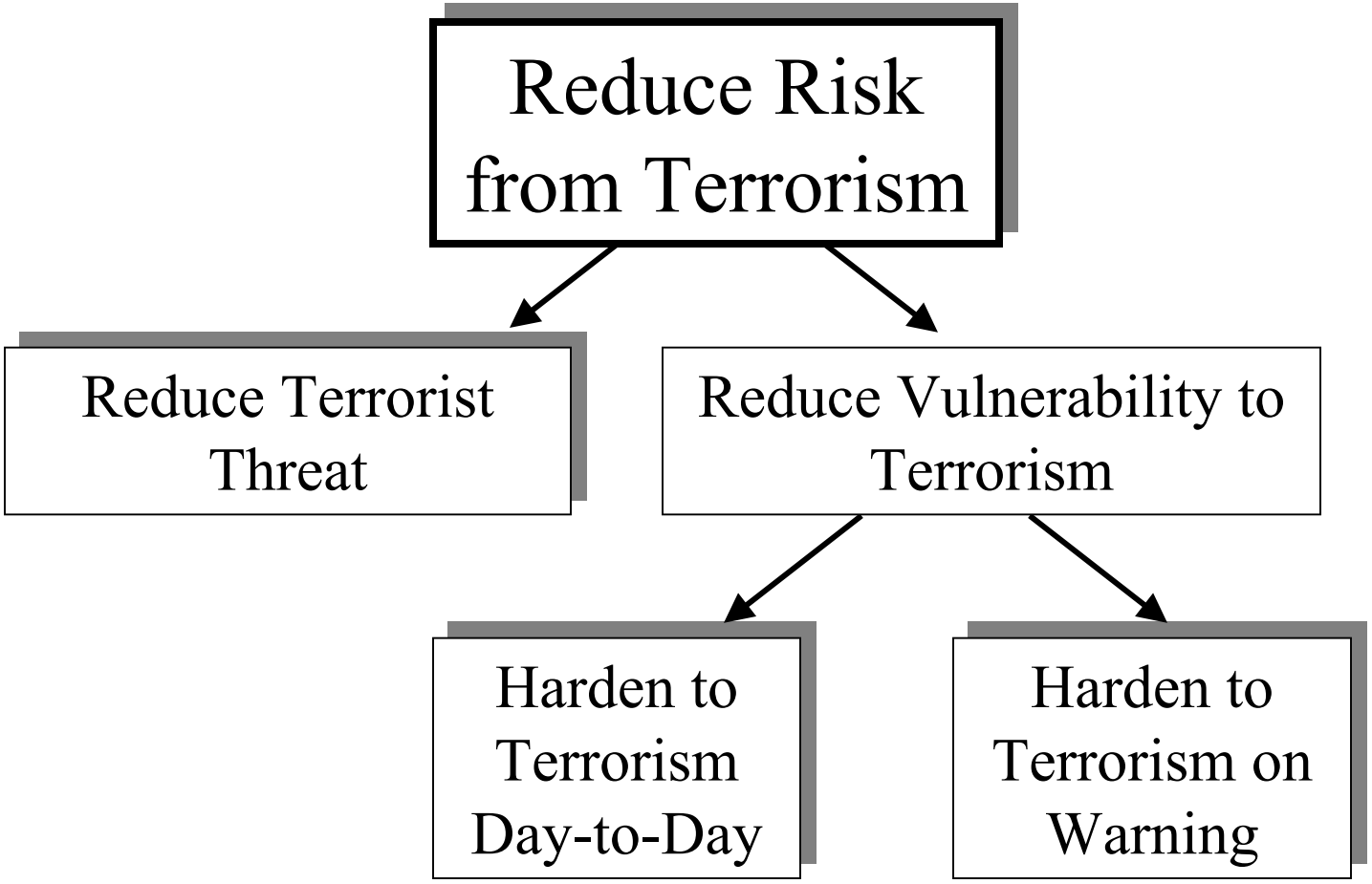
- Of great importance to an integrated whole; striking at the sources of an enemy's military, economic, or political power. *Webster's New-Collegiate Dictionary*

- Essential in war. *Concise Oxford Dictionary*

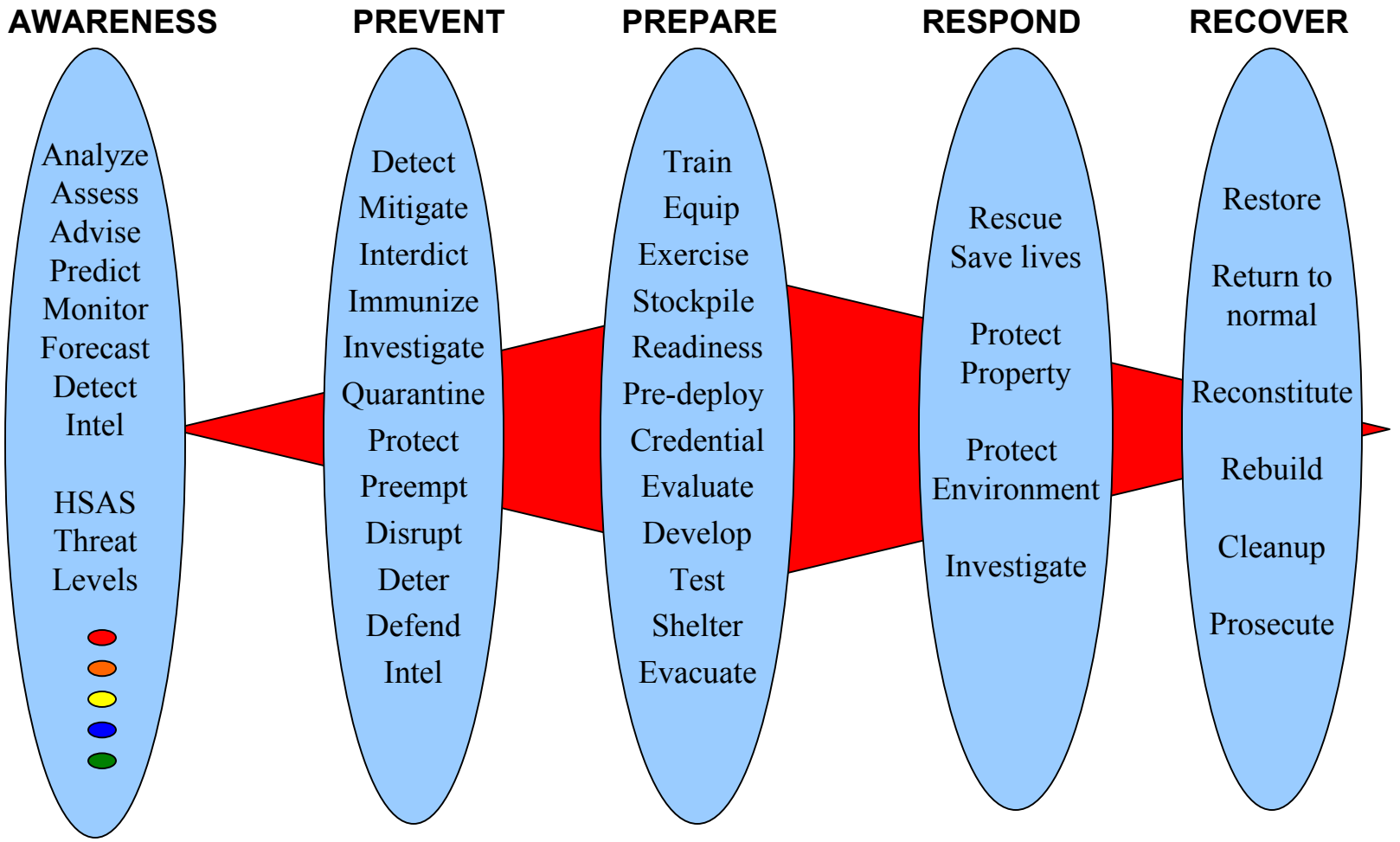
Strategic Objective: Reduce the Risk to the United States from Terrorism



Terrorism Risk Reduction - Strategic Components



Five Domains of Terrorism-Related Activities



Adaptation of National Response Plan Definitions

- Awareness – Activities designed to increase basic terrorism-related knowledge (including the identity, classification, and evaluation of potential threats) and aid in anticipating [near-term] threats.
- Prevention – Activities that aim to detect or identify specific terrorist attacks (or types of terrorist attacks) and effectively deter, discourage, interdict, disrupt, [mitigate,] or defend against such attacks.
- Preparation – Activities that seek to increase readiness and the ability to mitigate or more effectively defend against terrorist attacks to include reducing vulnerabilities and well-designed training, equipping, exercising of key individuals and organizations.
- Response – Post-event activities to include rescuing of victims and saving lives, limiting physical and environmental damage, and immediate incident investigation to reduce the likelihood or impact of further attacks.
- Recovery – Post-event and post-response activities to restore or reconstitute those physical assets and capabilities lost or damaged in a terrorist attack to the pre-attack state and reestablish to the degree possible the local and national [psychological] conditions that prevailed prior to the attack.

Terrorism Scenarios/Attacks of Major Concern

Nuclear Detonation (Case 1: 1-5) (Case 2: 100's)	**Dirty Bomb (Case 1: 1) (Case 2: 1-5)**	**Biological Weapon**	**Chemical Weapon**	**Traditional (High Explosive) Terrorism**
• Prompt Destruction • Spacially limited impacts • Alternate C2 Sites	• Prompt and persisting effects • Widely dispersed impacts • Risk management challenge tied to: (1). Panic in short-term and (2) De-contamination in long-term	• Wide area impacts • Acute short-term Public Health challenges • Long-term key site de-contaminatio n	• Wide area impacts • Acute short-term Public Health challenges • Long-term key site de-contaminatio n Combined attack with catastrophic effects	Combined attack with catastrophic effects

Terrorism Scenarios of Major Concern re Potential Level of Threat to Human Life and Damage and Destructi

	Nuclear Detonation (Case 1: 1-5) (Case 2: 100's)	Dirty Bomb (Case 1: 1) (Case 2: 1-5)	Biological Weapon	Chemical Weapon	Traditional (High Explosive) Terrorism	C A
Destructive Threat or Challenge	• Prompt Destruction • Spacially limited impacts • Alternate C2 Sites	• Prompt and persisting effects • Widely dispersed impacts • Risk management challenge tied to: (1). Panic in short-term and (2) De-contamination in long-term	• Wide area impacts • Acute short-term Public Health challenges • Long-term key site de-contamination	• Wide area impacts • Acute short-term Public Health challenges • Long-term key site de-contamination Combined attack with catastrophic effects	Combined attack with catastrophic effects	?
No Crisis: • **No Warning**						
No Crisis: • **With Near-term Strategic or Tactical Warning**						
The U.S. in a Political Military Crisis • **No warning**		"	"	"	"	
The U.S. in a Political Military Crisis: • **With Near-term Strategic or**		"	"	"	"	

A Path to a Consensus Strategic Vision

	Domains of Terrorism Risk Reduction				
Alternative Integrated Strategic Visions	Awareness	Prevention	Preparation	Response	Recovery
#1	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • ‘ •
#2					
#3					