

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DEFENSE ANALYSIS

**DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION: AN
EVALUATION OF INTERAGENCY RESPONSE CAPABILITIES (A USER'S GUIDE) (U)**

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The purpose of this thesis is to analyze and identify existing and potential flaws that inhibit integration of civilian and military agencies in response to domestic terrorist threats involving weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The study reviews the existing counterterrorism legal and institutional frameworks in conjunction with current interagency coordination mechanisms. The subsequent analysis of these areas revealed strengths and weaknesses that influence interagency response to domestic WMD terrorism. Corresponding recommendations for review and implementation are provided to assist improvement of current response capabilities. Furthermore, the recommendations offer a "model" that can be used to consider the transfer of authority from civilian to military control in times of specific domestic crisis.

DoD KEY TECHNOLOGY AREA: Chemical and Biological Defense

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