



The Army's Role in Domestic Disaster Response: Preparing for the Next Catastrophe



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AGENDA

- I. DEFINITIONS & ACRONYMS
- II. WHY THIS TOPIC
- III. APPROACH TO RESEARCH
- IV. HISTORICAL IMPROVEMENTS
- V. PROBLEMS & CONCERNS
- VI. RECOMMENDATIONS & WAY AHEAD
- VII. CONCLUSION





Definitions

- Catastrophic Incident - natural or manmade incident resulting in results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties & damage population, government & infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale.
- No-notice disaster – Disaster that occurs w/o warning
- Title 10 – Active Duty & US Army Reserves
- Title 32 – National Guard
- CBRNE – Chemical, Radiological, Biological, Nuclear, & High Explosives

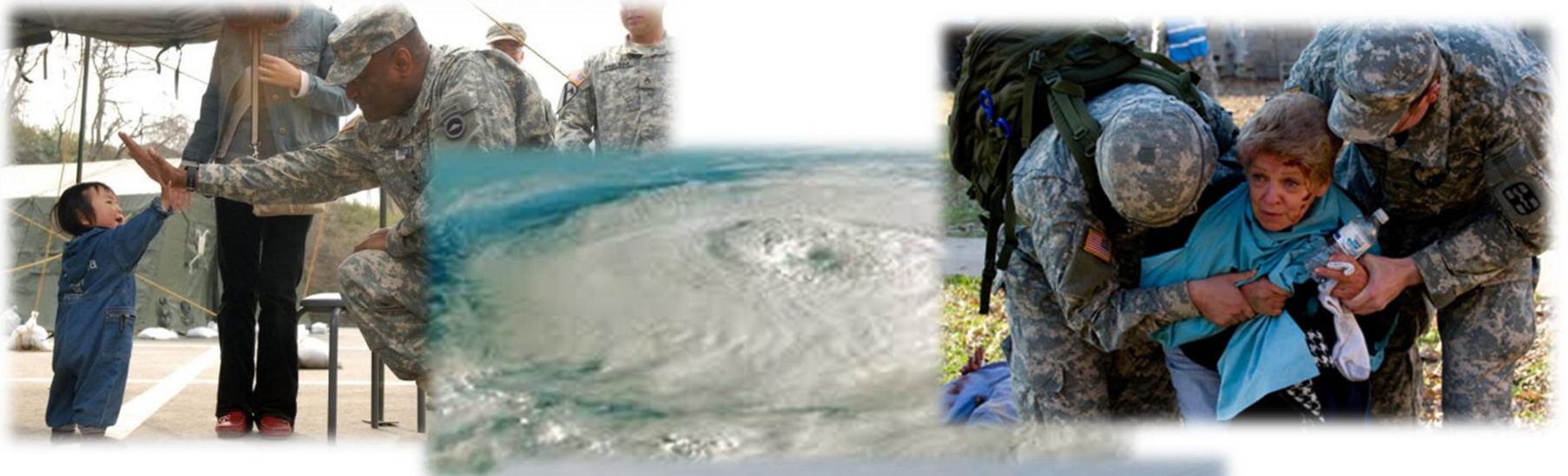
DSCA – Defense Support to Civil Authorities



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Why This Topic?





Approach to Research

- After Action Reports
- Studies on Lessons Learned
- Interviews with senior personnel at:
 - US Army Northern Command
 - US Pacific Command
 - State Military Commanders
 - Emergency Managers





Why Improve Domestic Disaster Response?

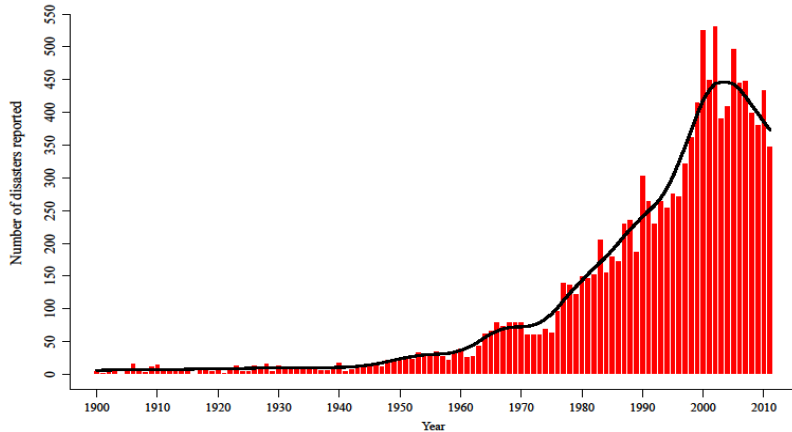
- The Military is Unique National Asset
- Army capacity and capability
- (9) Primary Capabilities in Disaster Response
- Increasing Disaster Trend
- Urbanization
- Trust & Expectations of the American Public



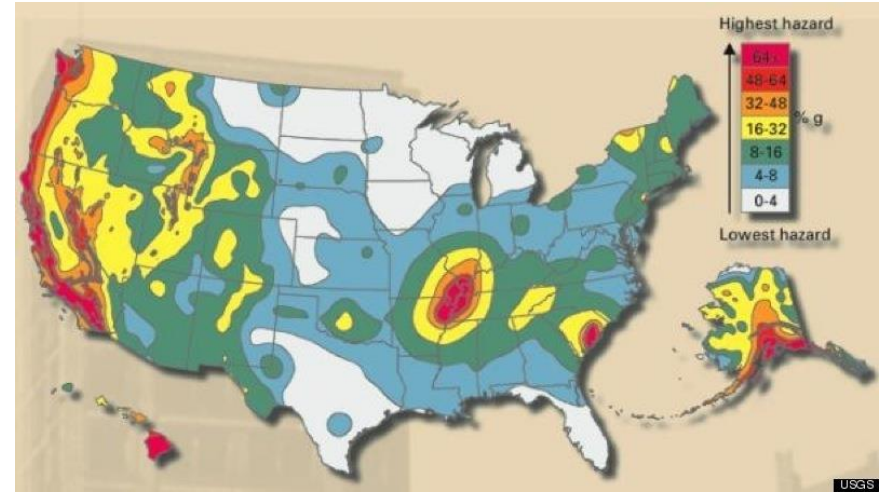


Increasing Disaster Trends

Natural disasters reported 1900 – 2011



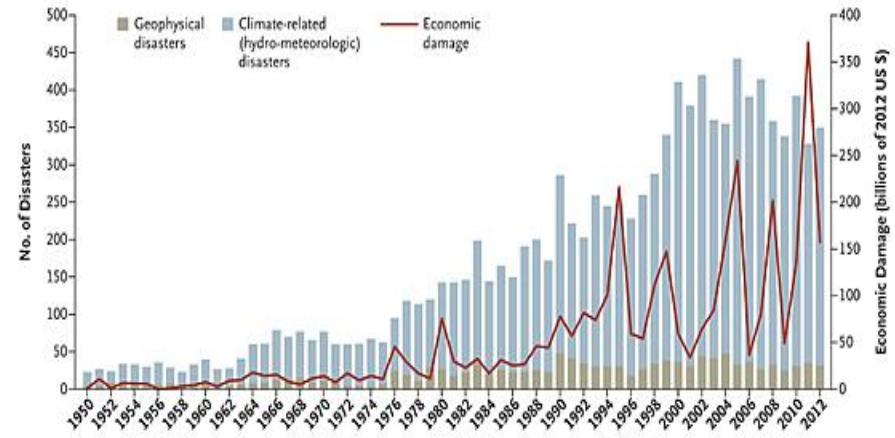
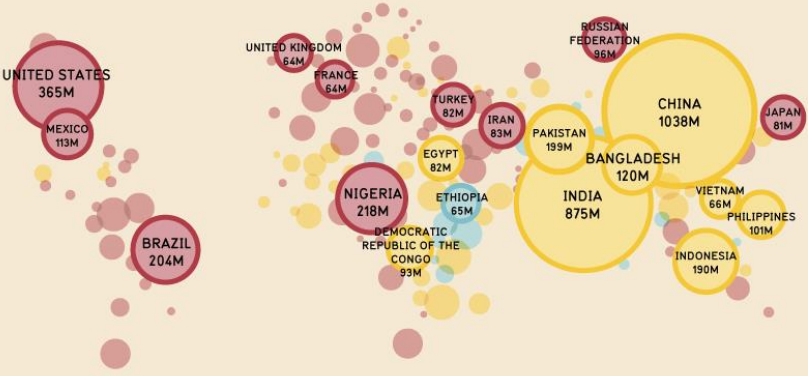
EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database - www.emdat.be - Universit  Catholique de Louvain, Brussels - Belgium



USGS

"AN URBAN WORLD" – UNICEF COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WITH URBAN POPULATIONS EXCEEDING 100,000 IN 2050

CIRCLES SCALED TO URBAN POPULATION SIZE
COLOR REFLECTS % OF PEOPLE LIVING IN CITIES AND TOWNS





Improvements to Disaster Response

- Changes to National Strategies
- National Response Framework
- Field Manual 3-0 Full Spectrum Operations
- Dual Status Commander
- Improvements in Force Structure
- Improvements in Capabilities
- Organizational Changes





Existing Problems & Concerns

Problems identified...

1. Response Time (w/i the first 72 hours)
2. Preparation & Training at the lowest levels
3. Regional Response Capability

Additional Concerns:

- Catastrophic regional no-notice disaster
- Maintaining public trust





Recommendation #1

Improve the Process and Response Time in Disaster Response

- Greater involvement in preparation
- Increased Training
- Assessments





Recommendation #2

Increase the priority and requirement for DSCA to be a METL task for selected Army units

- Disaster response training prepare Soldiers for combat
- Selected units should carry a “dual mission”
- Changes need to be emphasized in the Army’s strategy and guidance





Recommendation #2

“(We) need to tap capability that is inherent in our military in disaster response and train for disaster response ...when we organized and practiced it, what we found out was that practicing and planning for the domestic response mission translated to improving standard operating procedures, Tactics Techniques and Procedures (TTPs), command and control of forces, and our ability to work with civil authorities ...that helps our warfighting capability from commanders down to the individual Soldiers. Domestic disaster response training have developed unique perspectives and sharpened our ability to plan and work with country teams and civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

MG Treacy, Former Commander, JTF-CS



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Recommendation #3

Establish a Standing Regional Domestic Response Force with increased capacity

- Defense CBRNE Response Force (DCRF) should be increased
- Subsequent increase in capability through “dual missions”





Recommendation #3

“We (NORTHCOM) are most concerned with a large-scale, multi-state disaster that is likely to cross multiple jurisdictions, causing extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage or disruption that severely affects the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions. These complex, catastrophic events will not only test federal, state and local capabilities and will likely necessitate an adjustment to the normal federal request process ...they may also change DOD’s normal role in a disaster—perhaps not only supporting during the ‘response’ phase of a disaster, but also heavily involved during the ‘recovery’ phase for the long term.”

LTG Dubie, Deputy CDR, USNORTHCOM

“...one of the biggest concerns relating to domestic disaster response for Commander of NORTHCOM is a complex no-notice disaster.”

MG Treacy, Former CDR, JTF-CS



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Conclusion

“The need for U.S. armed forces, and the Army in particular, to provide planning, logistics, command-and-control, and equipment support to civil authorities in the event of natural disasters continues to be demonstrated regularly and is unlikely to diminish.”

GEN Raymond Odierno

US Army Chief of Staff



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Questions



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