

Team Washington Homeland Security Newsletter

Spring 2008

Greetings from General Lowenberg

Let's work together. Let's be bold & courageous"

Governor Chris Gregoire – Washington's 22nd Governor



I am pleased to present this issue of the statewide Homeland Security Newsletter. Governor Gregoire's call to action perfectly symbolizes the spirit of teamwork within our public safety and emergency response community. The daily discipline, dedication and collaboration of Washington's public safety partners is essential to statewide readiness for emergencies and disasters. While focusing on daily operational challenges, we must also be "bold and courageous" in preparing for catastrophic-level prevention, response and recovery requirements.

Most recently, our consequence management and response capabilities were tested by our lead role in National Level Exercise 2-08 (April - May 2008). Several articles in this Issue address the scenarios and training objectives of this capstone national level exercise. Future Issues will build on Lessons Learned in the post-exercise review process and specific recommendations in the formal After Action Report.

We are also seeking to align the State Preparedness Report, the Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan and the Emergency Management Council's annual report to the Governor to create a composite "all-hazards preparedness" dashboard that more clearly identifies gaps and opportunities for advancing Local Preparedness, State Preparedness and Emergency Operations Center Sustainment priorities. It's important to maintain a capabilities-based, all-hazards approach that helps all partners discuss complex public safety requirements in a "Plain-Talk" manner and that supports a life cycle of baseline assessments, gap analysis and continuous adjustment of priorities and targeted investment goals.

Thank you for your teamwork – your efforts reflect great credit upon your organizations and communities and contribute immeasurably to making Washington a safe and secure place to live, work and raise our families.


Major General Timothy J. Lowenberg, Director, Washington Military Department

In This Issue

2008 Emergency Management Council Report to the Governor	2
Operational Art in Emergency Management	3
NIMS Coordination and Implementation Assessment	7
Region 4, Clark County: School Evacuation Exercise, 13 May 2008	9
Series on National Level Exercise by the National Guard	11
Preparedness Grants Update, including CEDAP Announcement	19
2008 Legislative Summary	24

2008 Emergency Management Council Report to the Governor

An interview of Linda Crerar, Policy and Committee Program Manager, by Jill Bushnell

Q: I understand the Emergency Management Council (EMC) is preparing their annual report to the Governor. Can you give an idea of what we might see in it?

A: The annual report will focus on citizen preparedness, local preparedness/readiness, and state and statewide programs preparedness.

Q: Can you provide a little background about the report—why do we do it and what does it entail?

A: The report is required by state law: “The council shall ensure that the governor receives an annual assessment of statewide emergency preparedness including, but not limited to, specific progress on hazard mitigation and reduction efforts, implementation of seismic safety improvements, reduction of flood hazards, and coordination of hazardous materials planning and response activities.” RCW 38.52.040(2). This year, the Governor asked the EMC to specifically address readiness levels, gaps, priorities, and how we might reallocate existing resources to focus on our priorities.

Q: How did the EMC approach it this year? What was the process?

A: The EMC had its annual report workgroup identify priority issues and the develop the report’s framework and structure. The Council held a daylong work session on May 15 where the members and other participants discussed the priority issues forwarded from the workgroup; reviewed annual reports and recommendations from their subcommittees (Committee on Homeland Security, Seismic Safety Committee, State Emergency Response Commission); and responded to questions posed by the Governor in her letter to the Council in April. The Council made decisions and recommendations in several areas that will be reflected in the report.

Q: What have you learned? How might you approach it differently next year?

A: Definitely working to align the Council’s report with the state preparedness report and making the statewide assessment of preparedness be based more closely on the actions in the state strategic plan particularly as that plan becomes a broad based strategy for state and local actions.

Q: Finally, when will the report be completed and how can I get a copy?

A: We expect it to be completed and available online in early July at www.emd.wa.gov.

Operational Art in Emergency Management: Framing the Concept

by Tom Symonds

Coordinator Region 5 Homeland Security & Pierce County Terrorism Early Warning (TEW)

In December 2007, the White House issued Annex 1 to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8: National Preparedness. The Annex, titled National Planning, establishes a standardized approach to national planning. This approach includes a three level planning process: strategic; operational; and, tactical. Without benefit of further elaboration (the Annex does not define these three levels), local emergency management agencies nonetheless have an accurate idea of both strategic planning and tactical planning. However, operational planning, as a concept, is a bit more problematic to local planners. The ‘operational’ level seems nebulous, lying as it does between tangible, grass-roots planning (tactical) and the overarching “view from 35,000 feet” planning (strategic). This essay aims to help the reader see through the theoretical and academic fog that engulfs ‘operational’ and gain a more practical understanding of the concept.

What is ‘Operational Art?’

To many Cold Warriors, like me, ‘operational’ or more correctly ‘operational art’ is a well-defined and well-understood concept. Simply put, it is the bridge that links tactics and strategy.¹ ‘Operational art’ sequences and synchronizes a series of tactical actions through the conduct of major operations to accomplish operational aims which ultimately meet the strategic goal.² That’s enough theory. Let me take you through an incident in Pierce County in which you will see the elements of ‘operational art’ at work and the relationships among the three planning levels: strategic; operational; and, tactical.

Orting Water Incident

On the afternoon of 16 April, 2007, Public Works personnel in the City of Orting discovered a break-in at the Harman Spring water storage tank. It was not immediately clear if the water quality had been compromised, but in the interest of public safety the Public Works personnel closed the valve that took the Harman Spring

¹ Military planners recognized that tactics alone were insufficient to achieve strategic aims and that the gap between tactics and strategy was so vast that an intermediate level of practice was needed. This intermediate field of study is what became known as ‘operational art.’

² ‘Operational art’ stresses a leader’s innate planning and decision-making skills, and his staff’s implementation skills. The artistry part of ‘operational art’ references a leader’s planning skills to effectively manage resources based on his experience in and awareness of all aspects/levels of disaster response; and his decision-making skills to select a course of action in concert with the planning. The ability of subordinates to implement actions consistent with the leader’s decisions completes the ‘operational art’ skill set.

Operational Art in Emergency Management [Cont.]

(Continued from page 3)

facility off-line. Additionally, since the actual time of the break-in was unknown, there was no accurate estimate of the amount of potentially contaminated water that had already flowed into Orting's water system. This was the baseline information available to responders and emergency managers which prompted the following operations: Law Enforcement Operation (to investigate the criminal activity related to the break-in); Public Health Operation (to address Food and Community Safety issues related to possible contaminated water; as well as the testing, analysis, and certification of the quality of the public water in Orting); Public Works Operation (to repair and improve the physical security situation at Orting's water facilities); and the Drinking Water Operation (to expeditiously provide sufficient drinking water to the citizens of Orting for an extended period of time until their own water service was restored). It is the Drinking Water Operation that will be the focus of this essay.

Establishing 'Operational' Aims

Thinking 'operationally' is a reversal of mental approach to many if not most decision-makers. 'Operational' aims are composed of tactical aims and 'operational' effectiveness comes with the simultaneous pressure of tactical activities across the breadth of the operation. However, successful 'operational' planning reaches backwards from the 'operational' aim to the tactical aims and activities; not from tactical aims to the 'operational.'³ A parallel example of this strategic-operational-tactical relationship may be seen among National Preparedness Goals (strategic) – Target Capabilities (operational) – Universal Tasks (tactical). Defining Target Capabilities (operational aims) causes one to look inward at the Universal Tasks (tactical aims) necessary to achieve the desired Target Capabilities (operational aims) which ultimately satisfy the National Preparedness Goals (strategic). On the other hand, starting with a multitude of potentially disorganized and unsynchronized Universal Tasks (tactical aims) may or may not lead to a systematic and timely achievement of Target Capabilities (operational aims).

In the Drinking Water Operation, before tactical activities were begun, the 'operational' aim was rapidly established: quickly provide sufficient drinking water to the citizens of Orting for an extended period of time until

³ Many local planners find it difficult to plan from 'operational' objectives backwards to the current starting point largely because 'operational' objectives have not been identified beforehand. They are more likely, based on past history, training, and culture, to plan outwards from today towards some undetermined objective in the future. Unfortunately, this often leads into the "phase" thinking approach – the commitment to "any success is better than none," which often leads decision-makers to think achievement of "Phase 1" is success and any achievement beyond "Phase 1" is a bonus.

(Continued on page 5)

Operational Art in Emergency Management [Cont.]

(Continued from page 4)

their own water service was restored. Success in the 'operational' aim for the Drinking Water Operation combined with success in the other operations (Law Enforcement, Public Health, Public Works) would achieve the strategic aim: provide for the welfare of our citizens. Establishing the 'operational' aim enabled the identification and sequencing of tactical aims and simultaneous tactical activities (simultaneity is an important element of 'operational art'), such as, contacting Orting water purveyors (e.g., Safeway, etc.) for supplies on hand and possibilities of resupply; arranging with water purveyors in Pierce County for "immediate" delivery of water; arranging with out-of-county purveyors for long-term delivery capabilities; coordinating delivery/distribution points to the citizens; and so on. Jointness, another key element of 'operational art', was evident by the numerous agencies involved in the coordinated tactical activities for this operation, such as, the Pierce County Emergency Operations Center; fire services from within and without the County; and private sector representatives. Synchronizing the simultaneous tactical activities brought positive pressure on achieving the aim of the operation.⁴

Tempo

Meeting tactical objectives advances an operation along a timeline towards achievement of the 'operational' aim. This timeline, or tempo (another component of 'operational art'), is the rate at which the operation advances based on achieving the objectives of the tactical activities. In the Drinking Water Operation, achievement of the 'operational' aim, based on the tempo of the operation, would likely be accomplished within 24-48 hours after the onset of the event. Being able to provide a sustainable source of drinking water within 24-48 hours to a population of 6,000 seemed to be a laudable achievement; and indeed, the operation was moving at a steady tempo to achieve that aim.

Desant

During the Drinking Water Operation, a new element of 'operational art' was added to the mix: a *desant*. The term *desant* comes from the Russian language and in the 'operational art' field of study, it means a force that can go straight to the operational aim at a tempo at least one order of magnitude higher than the tempo of the

⁴ Likewise, simultaneous operations (Drinking Water, Law Enforcement, Public Health, Public Works) were bringing positive pressure upon achievement of the strategic goal.

⁵ Pierce County has included private sector representatives in its Homeland Security partnership for years and the EOC routinely incorporates liaisons during activations.

(Continued on page 6)

Operational Art in Emergency Management [Cont.]

(Continued from page 5)

operation. In military terms, an example would be an Operational Maneuver Group (large unit with great fire-power) or an airborne unit designed to be inserted into an operation in order to exploit opportunities and advance the achievement of operational goals. In the Drinking Water Operation, the Pierce County EOC had a *desant* in the form of a liaison from the Pierce County Regional Water Association (RWA).⁵ The liaison was able to identify a Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) water main that terminated at a hydrant by the Orting Golf Course. The liaison also had a manifold available that had six spigots on it and which could be connected to a hydrant. After phone calls to TPU and coordination with the public safety services in Orting, the decision was made to use the manifold on the hydrant at the Orting Golf Course. Using the *desant* accelerated the operational tempo by several magnitudes. The operational aim, to provide and sustain drinking water for Orting's citizens until their water service resumed, was achieved in 6 hours instead of 24-48 hours. Once the manifold was attached, Orting's citizens were notified to bring their empty containers to the water distribution point. The other operations concluded within 72 hours and the Orting public water system was certified safe.

Summary

'Operational art' links tactics and strategy. It is choosing, ordering, and arranging tactical activities to achieve an 'operational' aim. 'Operational' implies a broader dimension of time and space than do tactics; it ensures adequate logistical and administrative support of tactical forces; and it provides the means by which tactical successes are exploited to achieve 'operational' aims and ultimately strategic objectives. I hope the Drinking Water Operation example I've used in this essay has helped put 'operational' into a more understandable perspective and will make 'operational' planning less daunting an endeavor for Emergency Management planners.

(Disclaimer: The views presented in this essay are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of Pierce County Emergency Management.)

Assessment of National Incident Management System Coordination

By Jill Bushnell

Homeland Security Strategic Planning Manager, Washington Military Department

In early April 2008, Jim Kadrmas of the Emergency Management Division and I were asked to evaluate the status of NIMS coordination and present recommendations to the Domestic Security Executive Group. We interpreted the task as being to assess the status, identify any issues, analyze the gaps, brainstorm potential courses of action, and then determine what courses of action are most favorable. We are not looking at NIMS “implementation,” (i.e., what jurisdictions have done to become NIMS compliant), nor are we looking at NIMS “compliance,” (i.e., which jurisdictions are or are not compliant with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requirements and eligible to continue to receive federal preparedness funding). We are considering what we are doing at the state level to ensure a heightened level of preparedness across the state - including state, tribal and local governments - as prescribed by the National Incident Management System. We are also looking at the current process of measuring progress and reporting compliance to DHS.

To do this, Jim and I first engaged others at the state level informally to articulate what is currently being done to coordinate NIMS implementation. Next, we sent a survey to points of contact from all NIMS compliance reporting entities—832 total. Then on May 16, we brought together those with a role in NIMS coordination at the state and local level to present the current process and engage feedback from a roomful of lead state agency representatives for Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) and Homeland Security Regional Coordinators.

We found that there were very few complaints about the current process, with the overwhelming message to continue with the program that Jim has developed.

That is not as easy as it sounds. Jim, who acts as the State NIMS Coordinator, the Military Department and Emergency Management Division NIMS Coordinator and the Assistant Manager of the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), spends a significant amount of time interpreting and disseminating DHS NIMS requirements throughout the state. This includes providing NIMS informational briefings frequently to state agencies, tribes, local jurisdictions and the Domestic Security Executive Group as well as compiling and submitting compliance results as required to the Department of Homeland Security. Other Emergency Management Division staff members coordinate resource management efforts (resources must be inventoried under NIMS) and the federal deployment of emergency management and response personnel (which will eventually need to be credentialed somehow under NIMS). The Department of Health has two staff members engaged in supporting State NIMS Coordination by helping to interpret and disseminate requirements to hospitals and local health jurisdictions and maintain the state NIMS reporting database.

(Continued on page 8)

Assessment of NIMS Coordination [Cont.]

(Continued from page 7)

None of these positions are specifically budgeted for “NIMS Coordination,” and this creates a problem when agencies are deciding what programs to continue and what to cut—NIMS coordination is not seen as a program nor is it a funded position, so it is assumed to occur around other work. The initial requirements centered on completing training courses and updating plans—things we could easily explain and track—but we are seeing more complex requirements for resource inventories and credentialing programs: Should we put effort into coordinating this statewide? Should we abandon our current efforts and let every entity figure it out independently?

The consensus during the meeting on May 16 was to continue the level of support we currently provide, however because it is primarily being accomplished as an additional duty, this may require formalizing the roles of NIMS coordination better among state agencies and shifting duties to allocate dedicated staff as a state NIMS coordinator or program manager and NIMS database manager. It may also be necessary to formalize the group that helps interpret NIMS requirements and make recommendations regarding NIMS implementation, called the Statewide Interagency Coordinating Group (SICG), by linking it to the Emergency Management Council. We also need to decide how we will approach credentialing in the future—it looks like we might initially recommend decentralized credentialing at the individual organization level (especially since it is only for volunteers for national deployment now), and eventually centralizing it through a state agency.

We will frame NIMS coordination issues and recommend courses of action for the DSEG to consider on July 14. The DSEG includes the agency directors responsible for most state-level NIMS coordination efforts—Military Department, Health, and State Patrol. The DSEG will channel their recommendations through the Emergency Management Council, Homeland Security Regional Coordinators, and other necessary groups before making changes that could potentially impact external entities.

Region IV, Clark County: School Evacuation Exercise, 13 May 2008

By Ernie Schnabler

Region IV Homeland Security Coordinator, Clark Regional Emergency Services

On a drizzly Tuesday, 13th of May, a simulated Active Shooter event led to the full scale evacuation exercise of a few hundred students of several Vancouver, Washington schools. Buses transported the students with their teachers to the Clark County Fairgrounds, where a new, huge Exhibition Hall was set up to accommodate the students and facilitate medical and psychological aid and then either re-unite students with parents or transport the students back to their schools after they would be rendered safe.

The Evergreen School District 112 (ESD 112) provided the students ranging from 12-13 year olds to Seniors in High School, and also provided teachers and administrators to manage the school-student-parent side of the Operations Section of the exercise. These folks carried the heavy load of arranging the transport of the students to the evacuation facility, the managing of the students at the facility, the re-unification of some of the evacuees with their parents, and the return transport of the other students to the rendered-safe schools.

The Clark County Sheriff's Office provided Law Enforcement support in the evacuation exercise and was Incident Command. The Law Enforcement Branch of the Operations Section provided perimeter and other external security around the evacuation facility as well as internal security inside the exhibit hall. Clark County Fire District 6 provided mass casualty incident (MCI) provisions, and the Red Cross as well as SMART and other volunteer groups provided emotional support, information, and other services to the students, the anxious parents, and responders alike.

Outside the facility, good signage along the ingress/egress routes, traffic control and guidance helped school buses and arriving parents. Washington State Patrol, Washington State Department of Transportation, as well as Facility management and Staff of the Clark County Fairgrounds were instrumental to avoid a traffic chaos outside the evacuation facility in spite of the fact that the evacuation facility is located only a quarter of a mile from the I-5 freeway exit.

The ESD 112 staff and personnel had planned for the arriving students to be arranged in a Pod-System in one section of the exhibition hall which was partitioned into three separate sections. In another section, the arriving parents/guardians were positively identified and cross-matched with school records to insure that in fact that person was authorized to pick up a particular student. Once approved, the parent/guardian was issued a permission slip which s/he then handed to a "runner" who would pick up the desired student from the separated student section of the exhibition hall. Separating the parent section from the student section was the

(Continued on page 10)

Region IV, Clark County: School Evacuation Exercise [Cont.]

(Continued from page 9)

“MCI/PsychAid” section, where Fire/EMS had set up the MCI equipment and where psychological assistance was available for injured or distressed students.

The first buses full of students arrived just after noon and by 3:00pm students had been reunited with parents and the remaining student had been bused back to their schools. The plan worked, lessons were learned, six observer/evaluators took notes, and an After-Action meeting is scheduled to review how the existing school evacuation plan worked and what needs to be tweaked and adjusted prior to the next exercise.

For further information in this school evacuation exercise, call Ernie Schnabler at 360-737-1911 ext. 3950 or email at ernestus.schnabler@clark.wa.gov

Below: Photographs from the exercise.



National Guard Prepares for the Unthinkable

By Capt. Bryce A. Fisher, USAF
HQ Washington Air Guard

FT. LEWIS, Washington – 297 members of the Washington National Guard mobilized to participate in a portion of a National Level Exercise, here. In this scenario, the region was hit with a triple play of catastrophes. The entire scenario includes a terrorist attack in downtown Seattle, a release of toxic chemicals in Oregon and a detonation of a chemical truck in Whatcom County.

The scenario was part of a national level exercise to train multiple agencies to respond effectively to large scale disasters. “Simulations such as these allow us to exercise the unique capabilities of the Air and Army Guard in responding to the needs of our state, said Brigadier General Gary Magonigle, Joint Task Force Commander – Washington. “Working together in a joint environment is critical to the success of our response,” added Magonigle.

The simulated attack hypothetically occurred Thursday afternoon and that portion of the exercise continued through Sunday. 176 Members of the Army Guard’s 420th Chemical Battalion and Air Guard’s 141st Air Refueling Wing and 256th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS), under the command of Army Lieutenant Colonel Bill Martin, trained search and rescue extraction, personnel decontamination and treatment for mass casualties. According to Sergeant 1st Class Michael Brown, exercises such as these “gives us an opportunity to take a simulation exercise to flex real world decontamination drills, emergency response reporting and search and extraction skills.”



Left to Right: Lt. General H. Steven Blum, Chief, National Guard Bureau; Lt. Colonel Bill Martin, Commander, 420th Chemical Battalion; Maj. General Timothy Lowenberg, The Adjutant General, Washington State, Director, Washington Military Department, Washington State Homeland Security Advisor

(Continued on page 12)

National Guard Prepares for the Unthinkable [Cont.]

(Continued from page 11)

Speed of response is the key to success of this mission. According to 2nd Lieutenant Carl Knoblich, typical times to don chemical suits range from 10-15 minutes, however that time can be reduced to as little as 3 minutes if absolutely necessary. One key to this unit succeeding monitoring the times and conditions the unit members are in the suits, as they are air tight. Although the weather cooperated, the work to rest cycle was monitored so as to limit the possibility of dehydration and fatigue.

The 256 CBCS provided “combat communications” capabilities to the men and women treating the simulated victims. This package of people and equipment provides mobile telephone service, internet, video teleconference and global broadcast system to the Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear and Explosive – Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP). MSgt Aaron Kelm says “we help the chemical teams do their jobs better by allowing them to communicate better.” According to Kelm, they have the technology to provide communication capabilities within 2 hours and the technology to allow radio devices operating on different systems to communicate with each other.

In situations such as these, the National Guard would be activated by the order of the Governor’s Office and would provide support to the civil authorities. In the simulation, Guard units from other states would have been requested to provide technical support and additional manpower.

Supervising the exercise was US Army North Command under the command of Lt. Gen. Thomas Turner. Also, monitoring the exercise was Lt. Gen H. Steven Blum, Chief, National Guard Bureau and other General Officers and from the National Guard.

Practice makes response for Guard Civil Support Team

By Tech. Sgt. Mike R. Smith
National Guard Bureau

FORT LEWIS, Wash. – In a training exercise that involved a suspected improvised explosive device releasing an unknown poisonous gas, the Washington National Guard's 10th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team (CST) responded May 2 by driving into the mock danger area.

Their actions were part of a larger, national exercise hosted by the Department of Homeland Security called “National Level Exercise 2008” (NLE-08).

The multi-state venue joined federal, state and local responders May 1-8 in east and west coast training scenarios, which tested their ability to react to domestic emergencies.

Guardmembers here trained at the 52-building urban training center called "Leschi Town" on Fort Lewis. The comparative ghost town is an active duty Army property on the southern end of the base's 86,000 acres. Normally, it prepares combat Soldiers for military operations in urban terrain; although, the responders used it in NLE-08 to simulate downtown Seattle.

“Primarily for the CST, this isn’t anything above and beyond what they normally do, as far as the hazard and the detection of it,” said Jeff Taylor, U.S. Army North evaluator.

Taylor and a U.S. Army North team evaluated the 10th CST to see if the team’s response met a multitude of regulations and standards.

Civil Support Teams augment local and regional response capabilities in events known or suspected to involve the use of chemical, biological or radiological agents. Currently, there is at least one Guard CST in each U.S. State and territory.

“We are kind of considered second responders; with the local authorities being first responders,” said Capt. Matt James, CST operations officer.

James explained that when a CST arrives on the scene, they work for the local incident commander and bring him a unique capability to analyze suspected hazardous agents on site.

“We make a large effort to get to know many of those local authorities throughout the state as possible,” said James.

“One of the things that they are able to gain here is working with additional state and federal forces as well as civil authorities,” said Taylor. “It’s more of the concept of the joint operation with the multiple agen-

(Continued on page 14)

Practice makes response for Guard Civil Support Team [Cont.]

(Continued from page 13)

cies involved and how they would work with them in a real event.”

On their arrival at the exercise, the CST immediately set up their operation area. They readied their medical truck, analysis lab truck and communication equipment. They put up a decontamination tent and an operations tent.

A two-member survey team carefully checked and donned “Saratoga” chemical suits and self-contained breathing systems to enter the mock chemical hazard area evaluators had laid out for them.

The survey team then combed through Leschi Town looking for hazardous agents with their detectors and radioed in information pertinent to responders including the location of mock civilians needing medical attention and extraction. Exercise officials reported 77 mock deaths in this scenario with more than 1,800 injured.

James said such exercises test the team’s readiness to respond to actual emergencies, including actions on site like collecting information, analyzing, conducting operations and working with the community.

“They are all things we need to continually rehearse to stay proficient,” he said.



Above: Members of the Washington National Guard 10th Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team prepare to enter Leschi Town early May 2 at Fort Lewis, Wash., during National Level Exercise 2008. The Department of Homeland Security exercise was designed to test local, state, federal and military responders to perform roles and responsibilities related to Homeland Defense in the event of a catastrophic emergency. This exercise was in response to a simulated terrorist attack using a chemical agent. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike R. Smith, National Guard Bureau)

Washington Guard disaster scenario joins service components

By Tech. Sgt. Mike R. Smith
National Guard Bureau

CAMP MURRAY, Wash. – When a volcano erupts and discharges half a mountain of ash on your state, then you have a major disaster.

For Sgt. Maj. Brian Rikstad, chief of operations for the Washington National Guard Joint Operations Center (JOC) here, the nation’s largest volcanic disaster was one reason he joined the Army National Guard.

Rikstad, who has been in the Washington Guard for more than 26 years, enlisted shortly after Mt. St. Helens erupted in 1980. A recruiter visited his school and spoke of the Guard and civilian response to the disaster as an example of how to help the community.

“I was living just north of here ... my community was devastated by the ash,” said Rikstad.

This week, Rikstad is simulating his community assistance as part the Washington Guard’s JOC team taking part in “National Level Exercise 2008.”

Hundreds of Guard Soldiers and Airmen are supporting NLE 2-08. The full-scale Department of Homeland Security (DHS) exercise joins federal, state and local responders May 1-8 in a multi-state scenario, which tests their ability to react to domestic emergencies.

The JOC is the Washington Guard’s nerve center for the exercise and for real-world operations. The center is conducting 24/7 operations for both missions.

With all the state’s Army and Air Guard assets at the JOC’s disposal, bringing in both services into the center allows them to work as one, said Rikstad. “We coordinate right here in the JOC.”

The National Guard has joint force headquarters, joint operation centers in all 54 states and territories. Each state’s headquarters provides the command and control of National Guard forces for its governor.

As a mission comes in, the JOC works to decide what assets of the Army and Air Guard will best support it. This includes equipment and personnel.

“We are the military support for civil authorities, so it’s whatever the emergency management authorities decide the civilian [sector] cannot handle,” said Rikstad.

Coordinating many exercise support requests and communications here was operations Army Staff Sgt. Alice Parsells.

(Continued on page 16)

WNG disaster scenario joins service components [Cont.]

(Continued from page 15)

“It’s busy, very busy,” said Parsells, who was monitoring and posting exercise emails to keep all JOC members informed. This was her first major exercise in the JOC.

The JOC also had Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen working with them as emergency preparedness liaison officers. He said the servicemembers acted as a voice for the JOC in its coordination with other various commands in NLE-08. On top of that, the JOC was visited by three emergency responders from the Canadian military.

“We have a lot of players in the game,” said Rikstad. “What’s really neat is that we have a simulated news team that is broadcasting at the scene, which is giving us hair-raising footage on what is happening in the exercise.”

Washington’s scenarios for NLE-08 called out the Guard for a simulated terrorist attack with in Seattle, a tanker truck explosion near the state’s northern border and the accidental release of a hazardous chemical at a storage facility in Oregon.

“The Joint Operations Center is here for the community,” said Rikstad. “And we want people to know that we are here for them.”



Left: Washington National Guard Soldiers and Airmen at the Joint Operations Center on Camp Murray, Wash., were among many Guard units joining federal, state and local organizations May 3 participating in "National Level Exercise 2008," an eight-day Department of Homeland Security exercise designed to test the interoperability of local, state, federal and military responders. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike R. Smith, National Guard Bureau)

CERFP Participates in National Exercise

By Staff Sgt. Crystal Tyler
141st ARW Public Affairs

Fort Lewis Army Base, Washington--A joint exercise to prepare for large scale disasters took place May 1 thru May 4 at the Fort Lewis Leschi Town training area. The Air and Army National Guard joined together in a scenario to handle mass casualties and chemical decontamination.

The four day exercise for Chemical Biological Radioactive Nuclear Explosive Emergency Response Force Package (CERFP) training, involved over 180 Guard members. CERFP provides medical, decontamination and search and extraction services for a real world situation. The teams are expected to be able to deploy within six hours and complete set-up on site within 90 minutes to relieve the first responders of civil authorities.

Participants of the exercise also faced the challenge of combining different groups to work together as one team.

“It’s an outstanding opportunity to coordinate with the army to work together to the same goal, the joint theatre is critical to the mission.” Said Capt. Graham McGregor, Chief Nurse, 141st Medical Group, Fairchild Air Force Base.

The decontamination element was led by the 792nd Chemical Company, Longview, Washington. They are the first point of contact for the casualties after they are directed from the event site. They conducted a casualty collection area and provided decontamination for patients before sending them to medical for further evaluation. Members were trained over 150 man hours beyond their main duties for this task.

Sgt. 1st class Kelvin L. Gaut, Operations NCO 792nd Chemical Company said, “Our personnel have very little experience, and we are very pleased with the progress they have made. We have a lot of new soldiers assigned to the unit that have never dealt with CERFP operations before and they are picking it up really well.”

“One of our benchmarks is our set up time and tear down time, if we have to re-establish this site elsewhere time is of the essence,” stated Sgt. Todd Smelcer, 792nd Chemical Company. “Our standards are 90 minutes; we are averaging around 45 minutes to set up and 35 minutes to tear down.”

“We are all National Guard; we work for the same boss. We have a great working relationship with each other. We learn a lot from them and they learn a lot from us,” said Smelcer. “The 141st medical group has a lot of ex-

(Continued on page 18)

CERFP Participates in National Exercise [Cont.]

(Continued from page 17)

perience and will collaborate with us to give us some ideas what of to look for when we evaluate patients when they go through the line.”

The 141st Medical Group was in charge of the medical element. Members were part of the triage team to assess the incoming casualties, provide emergency treatment and provided a holding area until patients could be transferred to a hospital.

Capt. Terese Ulibarri, Medical Service Officer, 141st ARW Medical Group stated, “What I hope to gain from this training to make sure our people are trained and prepared in the event we have to truly respond to this type of incident.”

“The tools that are needed to make this exercise successful are cooperation from the community the leadership and all of the support personnel required to pull something like this off,” said Capt. Ulibarri.

The Search and Evacuation teams consisted of members from the 141st ARW Medical Group and Civil Engineering. In a real world event they are expected to work with civilian search and rescue operations and coordinate victim and casualty search, rescue and extraction.

“Our team works with the incident commander (who is typically a civilian), the Civil Support Team and local authorities,” stated Capt. Jason Kesler, 141st ARW Civil Engineering. “For this exercise we are dealing with Air and Army National Guard. We are the lead team to come in and do our sweep and searches until the main body arrives and then we transition over to the federal teams,” he said.

“I’m really surprised how well the air force and the army are able to come together and work as one joint force on this exercise,” said Sgt. Gaut, “The communication between the two elements have been outstanding.”

Emergency Management Division Preparedness Grants Update

By Don MacSparran

Homeland Security Section Manager, Washington Military Department/Emergency Management Division

The Emergency Management Division Homeland Security Section administers many grant programs. Currently, we are waiting for the award of the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP). The grant guidance was released on February 1, the State Preparedness Report was due on March 31, and the application was submitted on May 1. We expect the response and final award on July 30, 2008.

HSGP is a primary funding mechanism for building and sustaining national preparedness capabilities. It includes the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), and Citizen Corps Program (CCP). Together, these grants fund a range of preparedness activities, including planning, organization, equipment purchase, training, and exercises to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from disasters including terrorism.

These and other grants we are currently administering are listed below with descriptions from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Grants website. In the next issue, we will provide a grant award summary.

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP): SHSP supports building and sustaining capabilities at the state and local levels through planning, equipment, training, and exercise activities and helps states to implement the strategic goals and objectives included in state homeland security strategies. Washington received \$10,030,000 in 2007.

Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI): UASI addresses the unique multi-disciplinary planning, operations, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas. The Seattle combined urban area received \$10,660,000 in 2007.

Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS): MMRS assists designated metropolitan areas to sustain and further enhance regionally integrated all-hazards mass casualty preparedness and response capabilities to achieve: progress in meeting designated target capabilities; increased integration with state-wide mass casualty initiatives and capabilities; and effective coordination with mutually supportive program guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services and other relevant federal agencies. Washington received \$963,663 in 2008.

Citizen Corps Program (CCP): CCP supports Citizen Corps Councils in efforts to engage citizens in personal preparedness, exercises, ongoing volunteer programs, and surge capacity response, in order to better prepare citizens to be fully aware, trained, and practiced on how to prevent, protect/mitigate, prepare for, and respond to all threats and hazards. Washington received \$295,668 in 2008

(Continued on page 20)

EMD Preparedness Grants Update [Cont.]

(Continued from page 19)

Infrastructure Protection Program (IPP): IPP supports specific activities to protect critical infrastructure, such as ports, mass transit, highways, rail and transportation. IPP grants fund a range of preparedness activities, including strengthening infrastructure against explosive attacks, preparedness planning, equipment purchase, training, exercises, and security management and administration costs. IPP is comprised of five separate grant programs:

Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP): TSGP supports sustainable, risk-based efforts to protect critical transit infrastructure from terrorism, especially explosives and non-conventional threats that would cause major disruption to commerce and significant loss of life. Funding is provided to owners and operators of the nation's critical transit infrastructure, including rail, intra-city bus, ferry systems, and Amtrak.

Port Security Grant Program (PSGP): PSGP supports sustainable, risk-based efforts to enhance access control and credentialing, protect against IED and other non-conventional attacks, and conduct disaster-response scenarios. PSGP funds are awarded on the basis of risk and competition to eligible ports, as well as eligible ferry systems.

Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP): PSGP supports sustainable, risk-based efforts to enhance access control and credentialing, protect against IED and other non-conventional attacks, and conduct disaster-response scenarios. PSGP funds are awarded on the basis of risk and competition to eligible ports, as well as eligible ferry systems.

Trucking Security Program (TSP): TSP provides funding to identify and recruit highway professionals (carriers, drivers, first responders, highway workers) to actively participate in an anti-terrorism and security awareness program, as well as implement program training and 24/7 call center support.

Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP): BZPP supports the development and implementation of Buffer Zone Plans to protect the perimeter of critical infrastructure sites, including chemical facilities, nuclear and electric power plants, dams, stadiums, arenas and other high-risk areas from terrorist site surveillance or attacks with a focus on public-private partnerships and fusion center coordination. This program provides funding to states and territories with eligible critical infrastructure and key resource (CI/KR) sites. Washington received \$4,683,500 from 2005 through 2007.

Public Safety Interoperable Communications Program (PSIC): PSIC assists public safety agencies in the acquisition of, deployment of, or training for the use of interoperable communications systems. Washington received \$19 million dollars for this program.

Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP): CEDAP is a highly competitive program

(Continued on page 21)



EMD Preparedness Grants Update [Cont.]

(Continued from page 20)

that works in conjunction with other DHS grant programs to help strengthen the regional response and mutual aid capabilities across the nation to increase overall preparedness. CEDAP provides local homeland security partners with essential equipment and equipment training they may not otherwise be able to afford. (See a full article on CEDAP following this one.)

Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (OSPG): OPSG is an element of the FY 2008 State Homeland Security Grant Program. OPSG funds land border jurisdictions' efforts to improve border security, encourage local operational objectives and capabilities to enhance federal and state Homeland Security strategies, and improve capabilities required for border security and protection.

Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP) (FY07 and earlier): In FY07 and prior years, LETPP provided resources to law enforcement and public safety departments to support critical terrorism prevention activities, including establishing and enhancing intelligence fusion centers. Washington received \$7,170,00 in 2007.

Urban Area Security Initiative Non-Profit (UASI-NSGP): UASI-NSGP provides funding to support physical security actions by nonprofit organizations that are considered at high risk for international terrorist attack. While this funding is provided specifically to high-risk nonprofit organizations, the program seeks to integrate nonprofit preparedness activities with broader state and local preparedness efforts. Washington received \$543,994 in 2007

Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCP): RCP provides funding to advance catastrophic incident preparedness to Tier I and designated Tier II Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Jurisdictions. The goal of RCP is to support an integrated planning system that enables regional all-hazard planning for catastrophic events and the development of necessary plans, protocols, and procedures to manage a catastrophic event. The Seattle metropolitan statistical area received \$2,000,000 in 2008.

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG): EMPG is a cost-share program that assists state and local governments in sustaining and enhancing the effectiveness of their emergency management programs. Washington received \$5,878,853 in 2008.

Emergency Operations Center Grant (to be announced Jun '08)

Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant (to be announced Jun '08)

DHS Announces CEDAP 2008 Start Date

By Peter Tassoni

Homeland Security Equipment Program Manager, Washington Military Department/Emergency Management Division

The National Preparedness Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has announced the schedule for the 2008 application period of the Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP). Applications may be submitted via the Responder Knowledge Base (www.rkb.us) through 1700 EDT on Monday, June 30th.

Questions regarding the CEDAP program should be referred to Peter Tassoni at 253-512-7466, the CEDAP Centralized Scheduling Information Desk (CSID) at 800-368-6498, or the CEDAP webpage: https://www.rkb.us/contentdetail.cfm?content_id=83219.

The FY 2008 CEDAP complements the FEMA National Preparedness Directorate's other major grant programs to enhance regional response capabilities, mutual aid, and interoperable communications by providing technology and equipment, together with training and technical assistance required to operate that equipment, to public safety agencies in smaller jurisdictions and certain metropolitan areas. There are 15 eligible products to choose from in CEDAP 2008—they are listed on the following page.

Eligible applicants include law enforcement agencies, fire, and other emergency responders who demonstrate that the equipment will be used to improve their ability and capacity to respond to a major critical incident or work with other first responders. Awardees must not have received equipment/funding under the Urban Areas Security Initiative or the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program for which the Award Date is October 1, 2006 or later. Organizations must submit applications through the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB) website at www.rkb.us.

Washington State has received awards for over 50 jurisdictions and \$750,000 in both 2006 and 2007. More information is available at https://www.rkb.us/contentdetail.cfm?content_id=83219. Please disseminate this announcement widely amongst your peers!

See the list of eligible products for 2008 on the following page or at:

https://www.rkb.us/klinksmore.cfm?content_id=83219&relationtype=11500&overridesubtype=24

CEDAP [Cont.] - List of Eligible Products

ACISS Case & Records Management System The RMS provides one-time data entry captured from Reports, Tips, FIR's, Wires, etc. that can be routed electronically according to an agency's workflow. Intelligence, Case Management and other capabilities are available for various types of agencies.
AN/PVS-14 Monocular Night Vision Security Kit ITT Night Vision offers the night vision security kit, which includes an AN/PVS-14 night vision monocular device. This configuration includes head-mounting, a 3X magnification lens and other accessories for surveillance capabilities.
Advanced Vehicle Tracking System (AVTS) The Advanced Vehicle Tracking System (AVTS) is a covert wireless GPS-based tracking system designed specifically for law enforcement for vehicle and high-value asset tracking.
Ahura First Defender™ (chemical detection) The First Defender™ identifies toxic industrial chemicals (TICs), narcotics, contraband, chemical weapons, and white powders. It is light-weight, rugged, and weather resistant.
BIOSENSOR™ 2200R Biological Agent Detector The BIOSENSOR™ 2200R biological agent detector from MSA is a handheld, portable, on-site instrument for rapid detection, analysis, and identification of biological agents.
CEDAP Chemical Detection Kit (Gases and Vapors) The CEDAP Chemical Detection Kit includes (1) Proengin AP4C Set, (1) MSA Hazmat Colorimetric Tube Set, (1) MSA Sirius® Multi-Gas PID, and (1) Aristatek Ruggedized PEAC-WMD™ System.
CEDAP Radiation Detection Kit The kit includes: HDS-100GN Radiation Search and Identification Instrument (1), RAM R-200 Multi-purpose Survey Meter (1), RG-10 Contamination Beta/Gamma Probe (1), PA-100 Alpha Probe (1), and a Pelican protective case (1).
CEDAP Search Camera (specific product to be determined) A ruggedized, handheld, field-portable search camera kit, consisting of a telescoping pole and remotely articulated arm to reach extended areas.
CEDAP TNT Hydraulic Rescue System The CEDAP 2008 configuration includes: 6.5 Twin Hydraulic Power Unit (1), S-100-28 Spreader (1), C-25 Cutter (1), R-20 Ram (1), R-30 Ram (1), R-50 Ram (1), 30-foot Hose Assemblies w/ quick connect couplings on both ends (2), and a Ram Accessory Kit (1).
CounterMeasures™ Risk Analysis Software CounterMeasures™ - Risk Analysis Software utilizes automated data collection, data analysis, and report generation to assist organizations in identifying, quantifying, and managing risk to critical infrastructure and information systems.
Mini Thermal Monocular- V2 Insight Technology's hand-held thermal imager provides man-sized target detection performance over 300 meters. Its compact, light-weight form and image quality makes the MTM a versatile tool for reconnaissance, surveillance and search & rescue.
NOMAD C4XSB - Crisis Incident Command and Resource Management System Designed to operate as an instantaneous Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the NOMAD C4XSB delivers reliable high speed voice, video and data access to critical incident responders anywhere, at any time, and under any conditions.
Rapid Deployment Kit - Surveillance System SightLogix's RDK is a wireless self-contained portable outdoor surveillance kit. It consists of up to 4 intelligent automated portable wireless cameras coupled with a command center laptop workstation providing real-time GPS situational awareness.
Stedi-Eye Stabilized Day/Night Binocular Stedi-Eye Brand of High Powered Gyro Stabilized Day/Night Binocular. This binocular removes 99% of all vibration from body shake and hand tremor as well as platform vibration from a moving vehicle, aircraft or boat.
dTective™ - Forensic Video Evidence Enhancement, Clarification & Analysis System dTective™, powered by Avid Systems, is powerful yet easy to use. Ideal for CCTV, DVR, in-car camera, multiplexed VHS, and surveillance video clarification.

2008 Legislative Session Results

By Nancy Bickford

Special Assistant to the Director, Washington Military Department

The Washington State Legislature met this year for a 60 day session January through March and considered almost 3,000 bills, passing approximately 290 bills. The matrix on the following page shows the emergency related bills considered by the Legislature including a brief summary and the final disposition of the bill.

The Legislature focused on flood-related discussions and school safety. They passed bills that provide funding for mitigation, excise tax credits for service stations installing backup power generation capability, immunity from liability for air search and rescue volunteers, and school safety.

Bills related to pet emergency preparedness and a state and emergency assistance funding for state and local jurisdictions were re-introduced but failed to move through the Legislature. The public safety committee in the house worked primarily on school safety and the service station bill but also introduced legislation to set standards for emergency preparedness kits.

The Legislature funded two major studies:

- a) E911 revenue study for the department to recommend an appropriate funding mechanism for the implementation of next generation E911 in concert with the Utilities and Transportation Commission, the Department of Revenue, local governments, representatives from companies providing telecommunications services and other public safety and medical associations; and
- b) A flood warning systems study in coordination with multiple agencies to (1) provide an inventory and description of the flood warning systems currently in place in flood hazard areas of the state, including manual systems and electronic systems, (2) a needs assessment indicating what specific areas of the state could be better served by flood warning systems based on flooding areas mapped under the federal emergency management act. The needs assessment must include recommendations on how to make timely notification of flood warnings and how to gather and share data about potential flood areas; (3) an information bank of food warning systems, with descriptions of available and emerging technologies and estimates of the costs of purchasing installing, and maintaining these systems; (4) sources of potential federal assistance for local flood warning systems; and (5) recommendations to assist local governments in financing the capital costs of food warning systems, including the potential to modify existing state programs.

(Continued on page 25)

2008 Legislative Session Results [Cont.]

(Continued from page 24)

Emergency Management Related Bills Introduced in the 2008 Session			
Bill #	Title	Summary	Status
HB 1347	Long-Term Care Facilities	Directs the Military Department to require emergency response plans for all long-term care facilities licensed under chapters 18.51, 18.20, and 70.128 RCW. The emergency response plans shall include detailed written plans and procedures to address potential emergencies and disasters such as fires, earthquakes, floods, and wind storms. The plans must provide for an alternative source of power for the facility. The facility shall coordinate its emergency response plan with a local organization for emergency management established in accordance with the state comprehensive emergency management plan, as provided in RCW 38.52.070.	Died in Senate – No hearing
SHB 1675	Public Notices	Provides that state agencies required by law or rule to provide public notices to a community or area to advise or inform the public about an imminent or emergent public health, safety, or welfare risk shall provide bilingual or multilingual notices when a significant segment of residents speak a language other than English and have a limited proficiency in English. This requirement applies to notices that include, but are not limited to , proposed locations for criminal facilities or facilities that would house sex offenders. This requirement does not apply to the adoption of rules under chapter 34.05.	Died in Senate Rules
HB 1830	Creating an emergency transportation grant program	Declares intent to further the fundamental governmental purpose of preserving life by providing grants to both public and private ambulance services to improve their ability to respond to the critical needs of Washington citizens in the event of a disaster.	Died in House -
SHB 1840	Establishing a pilot project to design and test a command and control data system	Finds that implementing a command and control system statewide would: (1) Provide a visual, computer-based common operating picture for all decision makers in the event of an emergency; (2) Reduce the need for radio frequency bandwidth for voice communications; (3) Allow emergency responders to take action based on a common operating picture of the emergency situation; and (4) Allow for redundant pathway capabilities, which would increase the robustness of the state's communications system. Requires that, by December 1, 2008, the adjunct general shall submit a report to the legislature and the governor, indicating the feasibility and cost of implementing a command and control data system statewide, and making recommendations. Provides that the act shall be null and void if appropriations are not approved.	Died in House – Did not receive a hearing
HB 1841	Backup Power	Requires that, by July 1, 2009, every motor fuel retailer located within the state shall be capable of operating all fuel dispensing equipment, life safety systems, and payment acceptance equipment using a backup power source for a period of at least seventy-two hours. Installation of the backup power source shall be performed by a licensed electrical contractor. Requires that, by July 1, 2009, every water distribution business doing business within the state shall be capable of operating all water distribution systems using a backup power source for a period of at least seventy-two hours. Installation of the backup power source shall be performed by a licensed electrical contractor. Authorizes the attorney general or county prosecuting attorney to file an action in superior court to require a grocery store, motor fuel retailer, or water distribution business to comply with any of the requirements of this act. Provides that a grocery store, motor fuel retailer, or water distribution business that complies with this act is not liable for civil damages arising from the failure of the store, retailer, or business to operate during a disaster because: (1) The backup power source during a disaster has failed; or (2) Conditions caused by the disaster make operations impracticable or unsafe.	Died in House – did not receive a hearing

(Continued on page 26)

2008 Legislative Session Results [Cont.]

(Continued from page 25)

Emergency Management Related Bills Introduced in the 2008 Session

Bill #	Title	Summary	Status
HB 1933	Emergency Shelters	Requires that each public school in Washington shall be made available to the public as an emergency shelter during states of emergency. The facilities must have a system in place to alert members of the public that such facilities are available to the general public during states of emergency and, to the best of their ability, provide water, shelter, and utilities to the public.	Died in House – Hearing in Policy Committee but not passed out of committee
E2SHB 2053	Motor Vehicle Fuel	Provides that, in computing the tax imposed under chapter 82.04 RCW, a credit is allowed for the purchase of an alternative power generation device, and labor and services for the installation of the device, by an eligible person. The credit is equal to the lesser of fifty percent of the cost of the alternative power generation device or twenty-five thousand dollars. Declares that “alternative power generation device” means a device capable of providing electrical power for gasoline service station pumps during periods when regular electrical power is lost including, but not limited to, portable power generation devices. “alternative power generation device” also includes wiring necessary to make the device capable of providing electrical power to the gasoline service station pumps. Declares that “eligible person” means a person selling motor vehicle or special fuels from a gasoline service station or other facility, with at least four fuel pumps.	Passed
SHB 2225	Enhanced 911 Radio Network	Requires the Adjutant General to submit a report to the Legislature on the potential for implementation of an emergency notification radio network. This activity is not directly related to E911 although 911 is mentioned in the title. It would require a study with identified participation and with the report due 1 December 2007. EMD would need to complete the study which needs further definition.	Died in Senate – Did not receive a hearing.
HB 2337	Television Reception District	To allow television reception improvement districts to be authorized to construct, operate and maintain public safety emergency radio communications systems, and to translate or retransmit signals originating from those systems.	Died in Senate Rules
HB 2365	Notice to Property Owners	Requires notification to property owners of emergency responses to property titled in their name.	Died in House – No Hearing
HB 2370	Emergency assistance account	The bill (1) declares the Legislature’s intent to strengthen state and local emergency response, mitigation, preparedness, and coordination by establishing a stable source of funding to support joint training exercises, citizen and industry coordination with emergency management efforts, public education, and relationship building among state and local EM officials; (2) creates a fund in the state treasury; (3) institutes a surcharge on residential and commercial insurance policies for deposit in the fund; (4) provides for allocation of funds from the account for state, local, and tribal emergency management activities; (5) requires a biennial assessment (report) to evaluate the effectiveness of state, local, and tribal governments to provide all phases of comprehensive emergency management, and; (6) directs the joint legislative audit and review committee to study and review the performance of programs implemented under the act; (7) declares premium does not include annual surcharge imposed in section 3; and (9) amends 38.52 RCW; (10) sections 4 thru 5 are affective 1/1/08.	Died in House – Introduced very late in session and did not receive a hearing
<p>During the 2006 legislative session Senator Kastama introduced a bill (SB6433) which very closely resembles this bill (SB 5296). During the last session the department received funding from a proviso for an Emergency Management Allocation Program which contained many of the stipulations found in this current bill (5269). The 20/80 split in funding distribution was used by EMD this year to implement the proviso.</p> <p>Required to establish by rule, criteria and procedures for allocating funds from the emergency management account including minimum requirements that local emergency management agencies must meet to receive allocations (Bill Sec. 2-4 added to chapter 38.52 RCW). Cost associated with rule development may include AAG services, public hearings, and possibly an administrative regulations technical writer and administrative law judge to conduct impartial hearings. Other costs include printing training and educational material, conducting exercises, additional travel, and hardware and other technology improvements.</p>			

(Continued on page 27)

2008 Legislative Session Results [Cont.]

(Continued from page 26)

Emergency Management Related Bills Introduced in the 2008 Session			
Bill #	Title	Summary	Status
HB 2504	Safe School plans	Changes RCW 28A.320.125 (RCW that applies to requirements for all school districts) to require schools to coordinate their safe school plans with local emergency management <u>and</u> consider guidance from OSPI. The statute previously just said consider guidance from OSPI.	Died in House – did not receive a hearing.
HB 2518	Volunteer Medical Workers	Makes technical corrections to the changes introduced into DOH statute two years ago for the retired medical worker license. The language clarifies that they must have held an active license within 10 years of applying for a retired emergency medical worker license. It also, more importantly, allows for accepting licenses of providers in other states who have similar licensing provisions.	Died in Senate – did not receive a hearing.
HB 2525	Flood Damage	Amends RCW 77.55.211 (Construction projects in state waters statute) to provide that DNR and DOE in the information brochure they are required to publish in accordance with this statute to include not only when permits are required to mitigate and prevent flood damage but to also publish when permits are not required for flood mitigation and prevention projects.	Passed
HB 2550	Emergency Preparedness Kits	Emergency Preparedness Kits – Requires GA in consultation with EMD and at least (2) vendors of emergency preparedness kits from the private sector shall establish purchasing and procurement policies and safety standards that establish a preference for EM preparedness kits that are purchased or acquired by a state or local agency. The policy should include specifying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expiration dates • Whether a kit is in compliance with federal environmental protection agency standards • How each kit purchased meets or exceeds standards • What state agency will have oversight for selecting vendor or vendors • Includes a very open-ended awful definition of an emergency preparedness kit • Requires GA report by Dec 1 on; a) standards determined for the kits, b) report on what state agencies procure kits for public distribution 	Died in Senate – Did not receive a hearing
SHB 3374	State General Obligation Bonds for Flood Mitigation and facilities for career and technical education	<p>The State Finance Committee is authorized to issue \$50 million in state general obligation bonds for federally matched flood hazard mitigation projects and other projects throughout the Chehalis River basin.</p> <p>The State Finance Committee is also authorized to issue \$100 million in state general obligation bonds to finance capital improvements related to skill centers. The State Treasurer is required to withdraw funds from that portion of the Common School Construction Fund derived from the investment income on the Permanent Common School Fund to make the principal and interest payments on the bonds. The proceeds from the sale of skill center bonds must be deposited into the Skill Centers Building Account, and appropriated account created. Authorized skill center bonds are exempt from the 7 percent statutory debt limit. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to adopt rules that set a 10 percent minimum local project contribution threshold for major skill center projects, unless there is a rational not to do so, given economic conditions or other compelling circumstances.</p> <p>The State Treasurer is required to withdraw from state general revenues the amounts necessary to make the principal and interest payments on the bonds authorized and to deposit these amounts into the Bond Retirement Account.</p>	Passed

(Continued on page 28)

2008 Legislative Session Results [Cont.]

(Continued from page 27)

Emergency Management Related Bills Introduced in the 2008 Session			
Bill #	Title	Summary	Status
SHB 3375	Appropriating funds for catastrophic flood relief	<p>The sum of \$50 million is appropriated to the Office of Financial Management (OFM), working with and through other state agencies, the Chehalis Basin Flood Control Authority, and other local governments, to participate in flood hazard mitigation projects for the Chehalis River basin.</p> <p>Up to \$2.5 million of the appropriation is for the Chehalis Basin Flood Control Authority or other local government groups to develop or participate in the development of flood hazard mitigation measures throughout the basin.</p> <p>The OFM is directed to participate as the non-federal sponsor of the United States Army Corps of Engineers flood hazard mitigation projects for the Chehalis River basin area for projects that are mutually agreed to between the federal government, the OFM, and the Chehalis Basin Flood Control Authority, or other authorized local government groups. The OFM must prepare the necessary agreements to ensure an active partnership with federal and state agencies, local governments, the Chehalis River Flood Control Authority, and others as needed.</p> <p>Construction funds may not be allotted for flood hazard mitigation projects until a project agreement between non-federal project partners has been signed and submitted to the Governor and the Legislature delineating responsibility for the ongoing operations and maintenance of the projects. The agreement must also include a plan to meet applicable flood plain management requirements and to address any applicable federal requirements for managing the effect of future land use developments on the extent and severity of flooding.</p>	Passed
SB 5097	Regarding Safe School Plans	<p>Requires school districts to annually: 1) review and update safe school plans in collaboration with local emergency response agencies; 2) conduct an inventory of all hazardous materials, d) update information on the school mapping information system to reflect current staffing and updated plans including: a) identifying all staff members who are trained on the national incident management systems, trained on the incident command system, or are certified in procedures for evacuation , to include bus staging areas, evacuation routes, communication systems, parent-student reunification sites, and secondary transportation agreements consistent with the school mapping information system; and 4) provide information to all staff on the use of emergency supplies and notification and alert procedures. Encourages school districts to work with local emergency management agencies and other emergency responders to conduct one tabletop exercise, one functional exercise, and two full-scale exercises within a four-year period.</p> <p>Requires school to conduct no less than one safety-related drill each month that school is in session. Schools shall complete no less than one drill using the school mapping information system, one drill for lockdowns, one drill for shelter-in place and six drills for fire evacuation in accordance with the state fire code. School should consider drills for earthquakes, tsunamis, or other high risk local events. Schools shall document the date and time of such drills. This provision is intended to satisfy all federal requirements for comprehensive school emergency drills and evacuations.</p> <p>Creates a task force on gangs in schools to examine current adult and youth gang activities that are affecting school safety. The task force shall work under the guidance of the superintendent of public instruction school safety center, the school safety center advisory committee and the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs. Requires the task force to be comprised of representatives, selected by the superintendent of public instruction, who possess expertise relevant to gang activity in schools. The task force shall outline methods for preventing new gangs, eliminating existing gangs, gathering intelligence and sharing information about gang activities. Provides that, beginning Dec 1, 2007 the task force shall annually report its findings and recommendations to the education committees of the legislature.</p>	Passed

(Continued on page 29)

2008 Legislative Session Results [Cont.]

(Continued from page 28)

Emergency Management Related Bills Introduced in the 2008 Session			
Bill #	Title	Summary	Status
SSB 5106	Emergency Plans for Animals	<p>A new section would be added to Chapter 38.52 RCW regarding the state Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to include guidance for state and county (local preparedness operational plans) comprehensive emergency management plans for humane evacuation, transport, and temporary sheltering of service animals and household pets and their owners. These plans would include encouragement for those individuals who refuse to leave their animals behind and endanger themselves and others. The plans would be submitted to the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Plans would include transportation of pets in cages or carriers.</p> <p>The bill directs animal shelters, human societies, veterinary offices, boarding kennels, breeders, hospitals and other entities which normally provide boarding for pets and service animals to have evacuation plans. The bill also directs finding shelters for larger animals, such as horses, near human shelters.</p>	Died in Senate Rules
SB 5296	Emergency Assistance Account	Companion bill to HB 2370	Died in Senate – Did not receive a hearing
SSB 6324	Liability immunity for aerial search and rescue activities managed by the department of transportation	Persons registered with the WSDOT Aviation Division, and engaged in aerial search and rescue activities managed by WSDOT, are generally immune from liability for civil damages resulting from the activities. WSDOT is also immune from such liability.	Passed

Acronyms

AAG—Assistant Attorney General	HSGP—Homeland Security Grant Program
ARW—Air Refueling Wing	IBSCP—Intercity Bus Security Grant Program
BZPP—Buffer Zone Protection Program	IPP—Infrastructure Protection Program
CBCS—Combat Communications Squadron	JOC—Joint Operations Center
CCP—Citizen Corps Program	LETPP—Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program
CEDAP—Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program	MCI—Mass Casualty Incident
CERFP—Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear, and Explosive-Enhanced Response Force Package	MMRS—Metropolitan Medical Response System
CI/KR—Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources	NIMS—National Incident Management System
CST—Civil Support Team	NLE—National Level Exercise
DHS—U.S. Department of Homeland Security	OFM—Office of Financial Management
DOE—Department of Ecology	OSGP—Operation Stonegarden Grant Program
DOH—Department of Health	OSPI—Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
DNR—Department of Natural Resources	PSGP—Port Security Grant Program
DSEG—Domestic Security Executive Group	PSIC—Public Safety Interoperable Communications Program
EMC—Emergency Management Council	RCP—Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program
EM—Emergency Management	RCW—Revised Code of Washington
EMD—Emergency Management Division	RKB—Responder Knowledge Base
EMPG—Emergency Management Performance Grant	RWA—Regional Water Association
EMS—Emergency Medical Services	SB; SSB—Senate Bill; Substitute Senate Bill
EOC—Emergency Operations Center	SHSP—State Homeland Security Program
ESD—Educational Service District	SICG—Statewide Interagency Coordinating Group
ESF—Emergency Support Function	TEW—Terrorism and Early Warning
FEMA—Federal Emergency Management Agency	TPU—Tacoma Public Utilities
FFY—Federal Fiscal Year	TSP—Trucking Security Grant Program
HB; SHB; E2SHB—House Bill; Substitute House Bill; Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill	TSGP—Transit Security Grant Program
HLS—Homeland Security	UASI—Urban Area Security Initiative
HQ—Headquarters	UASI-NSGP—UASI Nonprofit Security Grant Program
	USAF—U.S. Air Force
	WSDOT—Washington State Department of Transportation

Credits

The Team Washington Homeland Security Update Newsletter is published quarterly by the Washington Military Department. It covers topics related to statewide homeland security from the perspectives of state, local, federal, and tribal governments, private industry, and community organizations. You may find newsletters published after October 2007 online at www.washingtonresponder.com. If you wish to submit an article to be published in the next issue, please email Jill Bushnell, Homeland Security Strategic Planning Manager, at jill.bushnell@mil.wa.gov.

Editors: Major General Timothy Lowenberg, Nancy Bickford, Jill Bushnell