

Working through Simultaneity: PRESIDIO ENDEAVOR



What is Presidio Endeavor?

Presidio Endeavor is a CNA wargame designed for the National Guard Bureau (NGB) and rolling out this spring to all 50 states and four territories. It was designed to accomplish three objectives:

1. Identify time-phased NG force requirements to support military and civilian authorities;
2. Support state-level NG Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQs) development of Integrated Support Plans; and
- 3. Assess the impacts on domestic response operations if large portions of the NG are mobilized for combat operations**

There is a critical opportunity for EM to engage, especially around availability of NG forces issue and how states may be able to support their NG if forward deploying

What is the scenario overseas?

- **D-5 months:** Chinese “fishing” boats (the maritime militia) begin fishing in and around the Senkaku Islands.
- **D-3 months:** Chinese drones observing Taiwanese military facilities.
- **D-2 months:** Chinese maritime militia operating around Penghu Islands.
- **D-1 week:** China conducts a ‘military exercise’ in Taiwan Strait.
- **D-1 day:** Chinese air and sea blockade campaign to sever Taiwan’s economic and military connections.
- **D-Day:** A Chinese vessel rams and severely damages a USN vessel challenging the blockade, killing 23 US sailors, and injuring 34. PLAAF shoots down Navy aircraft operating in the area - 8 crew members are missing, 2 are confirmed dead. Both incidents spark a declaration of war.

What is the scenario at the Federal level?

- **D-6 months** : Two Chines-made balloons with long distance radio transmitters drift over U.S. airspace in a span of 2 weeks.
- **D-2 weeks** : The U.S. government publicly warns China to cease all aggressive acts within Taiwan's maritime border and threatens economic sanctions.
- **D-1 week**: A Chinese military exercise near Taiwan prompts DoD and NGB officials to discuss potential war strategies including the activation of NG troops.
- **D-1 day**: The President calls for 30,000 Air and Army NG troops nationwide to be on standby to support potential operations in the Pacific.

What is the scenario across the U.S.?

- **D-4 months:** Cyber-attacks target several small U.S. Counties, Townships, and Parishes' power grids with minimal success.
- **D-2 weeks:** Alaska, Hawai'i, and Guam all report sabotage to several port terminals, causing major shipping delays.
- **D-1 week:** Governors are informed of the possible activation of Title 10 to support active military operations.
- **D-1 Day:** Pro-Chinese messaging flood the information space. Increased targeted cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure and government systems.
- **D-Day:** Anti-Chinese government protests and Chinese immigrant and citizen hate crimes spike across the Country.

What opportunity does PE provide?

PE provides state EM Directors, HSAs, Governors, and other State consequence management leaders an opportunity to:

- Consider the availability of NG troops during different geopolitical stages (competition, conflict, and warfighting)
 - Allows for more informed state and local response and recovery planning
- Evaluate state/territorial internal and external capabilities to respond to and recover from cyber, kinetic, and supply chain attacks on the US.
- Consider if and how SLTT partners might be able to support warfighting efforts



What constraints and opportunities did the pilot reveal? (1/2)

- Gaps in MNNG strategic planning
 - Mobilization
- Gaps in joint MNNG/state strategic planning
 - Protection of critical infrastructure
 - Communications and information sharing (internal and external)
- State expressed strong preference to keep specific capabilities/teams local
 - Specialized teams and equipment (CBRN)
 - Anything related to cyber response

What constraints and opportunities did the pilot reveal? (2/2)

- Strategic deployment of force pool
 - Must consider rural versus urban
 - Urban is resource rich, whereas rural has limited response capabilities that are often dual-hatted or in leadership positions (e.g., a Guardsmen could be the town's police or fire chief)
 - Gaps in data to make decisions
- Real-time interagency coordination
 - Clear protocol for resource allocation decision-making
 - LNOs requirement likely to surpass current capacity
 - Requires joint training
- Both NGB and States would benefit from additional local, state, and federal agency participation in game play

Next steps

- NG will be receiving the game in early Spring
 - They'll play internally at least once
- NG will reach out to their EM contacts to engage for further iterations
 - Reach out to your contacts there to ensure participation
- Consider who from the State should be at the table
 - We recommend, at minimum, operational leadership from:
 - Emergency management
 - Departments of transportation
 - Departments of health
 - Law enforcement
 - Governor's office of communications

Others can be invited as observers

To continue the conversation...

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