Maritime Domain Awareness

A Waterfront View

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**Maritime Domain Awareness A Waterfront View**

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Key Points

• Defining the problem
• Practical challenges
• A real example
• Your “Desired Outcomes”
  – Questions that need to be asked/answered
The Problem

• Where did this come from?
• How do we describe it?
  – Technological (Te)
  – Theoretical/Cognitive (Th)
  – Practical (P)
• Complicating Factors
  • Geography
  • Mobility
  • Information (Volume & Quality)
  • Perspective
  • Threat/Target
  • Lexicon
  • Etc....
Practice (P)
Theory (Te)
Technology (Th)
Ongoing MDA Challenges

• Managing Information/Intelligence
  – RMP alone is insufficient
  – Info sharing between partners
  – Different and multiple AORs in a single region
  – Surveillance info mandated by regulatory regimes as opposed to a security mandate
  – Require significant intelligence to provide Indications & Warning and support to operations
  – More robust infrastructure required
  – Land domain awareness poor
Ongoing MDA Challenges (continued)

• Analyzing Information/Intelligence
  – Develop the “so what” on contacts, companies, people, etc to determine the threat/risk posed by vessels
  – Shift in mindset from regulatory concerns to national security

• Validating Information/Intelligence
  – Validation and verification of the RMP and vessel intentions
  – Lack of active sensors
  – Heavy reliance on others, as opposed to organic, surveillance assets
• Extremist Activity
• Foreign Intelligence Collection
• Illegal Fishing
• Drug Smuggling
• Pollution
• Illegal Immigration
• Unauthorized Research
• Whale, Seabird Protection
• Oil Industry Monitoring
• Eco-tourism & Arctic Sightings
• Maritime Interdiction Operations
• Search and Rescue
“Sum Up”

• The more we try to progress this, the more complicated it gets...harder to solve
• Solution rests in the intersection/union of Te, Th, & P...unfortunately I can’t offer any more than that
• It’s not about a specific target (set), it’s about the process
• Questions to ask (answer):
  – What problem are we trying to solve?
  – What does the ops community want/need?
  – What can you realistically deliver?
Questions – Panel Discussion?