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Introduction

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***Strategic Informer* Student Publication**

Student Executive Editor

Jon B. Mitchell

Student Executive Research Director

Mary A. Doyle

Student Contributing Writers

Devin C. Streeter

T. Cameron Swathwood

Joseph S. Dupras

Jonathan C. Hixson

Strategic Intelligence Society Student President

Zachary E. Myers

Dean of Helms School of Government

Dr. Shawn D. Akers

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Charles A. Murphy

Even in today's fast-paced, interconnected world it is often difficult to stay informed about all of the important issues that affect our country. News media, social networking, and information from a multitude of other sources is constantly flowing and updating every second, but solid facts and analysis of many important issues and events connected to vital American interests are often overlooked.

The *Strategic Informer* is designed to cut through the noise of voluminous but often irrelevant information and provide brief but detailed analysis of the current issues pertaining to intelligence, law enforcement, national security, and international affairs. Our mission is two-fold; first, we seek to provide a clear understanding of the facts and importance of particular issues in short, easy-to-read articles that will be valuable to busy professionals, students, or any person who wants to stay well informed about current issues without having to spend the time to sort through hundreds of sources to find the facts. The second part of our mission is to show how a multitude of topics interconnect and must each be taken into account when discussing strategic strategies to protect American interests. This edition of the *Strategic Informer* includes articles discussing a variety of topics from OPSEC and cybersecurity, to the surveillance of Islamic communities in the U.S., to counterfeit pharmaceuticals, to the impact of police militarization. These concerns will shape and define the type of world we live in for many years to come. Every writer and editor for the *Strategic Informer* put a tremendous amount of effort into researching their topic and writing their articles so that only the most relevant and accurate information is presented to the reader. Our hope is that you will find this publication both interesting and practical, a tribute to all of the hard work done to ensure that you stay strategically informed.

Zachary E. Myers

President

Jon B. Mitchell

Executive Editor