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Introduction

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STUDENT PUBLICATION

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UNIVERSITY.

In today's busy 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 goal of this publication, the *Strategic Informer*, is to provide brief but detailed analysis of 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 brief, 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 time reading through pages of information to identify what they want to know. 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 inaugural edition of the *Strategic Informer* represents our purpose and mission very well; it includes articles from distinguished faculty members who are experts in their respective fields as well as articles written by students who come from a variety of backgrounds and majors. Each author has focused on a different topic, including terrorism, law enforcement, economics, and cyber-espionage, yet each of these issues plays an important role in American national security and international affairs and each writer has stayed true to the goal of writing to strategically inform. 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.

Throughout this inaugural edition of *Strategic Informer*, each article is interwoven with the others, from law enforcement to technology. Applications of strategic intelligence in local law enforcements become relevant if applied directly to the threat of agroterrorism, the handling of which may be carried out by private contracting companies. The third world debt crisis is shown to drive contributing factors to the development of terrorist organizations, with a Colombian terrorist group as a case study pertaining to the potential imminent risk of attack upon the United States. Finally, the nature of technology and the potential for its exploitation for intelligence can apply to any of the other articles contained herein. While each article could be taken as a standalone analysis, we in the Strategic Intelligence Society encourage you to seek the unifying, interwoven threads of commonality between them buried just beneath the surface. We recognize that the world of intelligence is complex and overwhelming at times, yet we have taken the challenge of understanding it and now present our findings to you, the American reader. Our desire is for you to likewise increase your understanding of these matters and perhaps find them relevant in your own life as you navigate the chaotic world of information and intelligence.

Zachary E. Myers
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