



“Global Tempest”

SPF Holds First State-Level Exercise for Secretary of Defense Strategic Policy Forum

—EXERCISE SUMMARY—

At the request of Governor Linda Lingle (R-HI), the Strategic Policy Forum (SPF) took its strategic-gaming exercise *Global Tempest* to the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) in Honolulu in an effort to promote Federal-state dialogue on a range of issues related to homeland security, public health crises, and the H5N1 avian influenza virus.

Characterized as a pilot exercise for a potential SPF state-level program, this iteration of *Global Tempest*, conducted on December 9, 2006, brought together a wide audience of Federal and state participants, which included members of Gov. Lingle’s cabinet, the Hawaii State House of Representatives, senior-level officials from both the Federal executive branch and military, and many others. An explicit attempt to facilitate broad state and local interest in the program, this was the first time SPF played an exercise outside of Washington, D.C.



Gov. Linda Lingle, Speaker Calvin Say, and MG Robert Lee contemplating an H5N1 avian flu pandemic reaching U.S. shores.

SPF’s crisis-simulation exercises, an initiative of former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, are designed to provide senior government officials with insights into the complex world of policymaking in the current global security environment. *Global Tempest*, in particular, presents a vexing scenario: the emergence in Indonesia of human-to-human transmission of the deadly H5N1 avian flu strain, which threatens to spread internationally. As the exercise unfolds, U.S. policymakers are asked to respond to a domestic outbreak, where the first-confirmed infected American is discovered in Honolulu. The nation’s pandemic preparedness, communications, and surveillance capabilities are put to the test in *Global Tempest* as H5N1 wreaks havoc upon the U.S. mainland.

LtGen Frances C. Wilson, President of the National Defense University, and LTG Edward Smith (ret.), Director APCSS, welcomed participants to the exercise. Opening *Global Tempest*, the Honorable Ryan Henry, Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, and Gov. Lingle noted the importance of dialogue among Federal, state, and local officials toward fostering an environment of cooperation in which to address the complex security threats confronting the United States.



PDUSD Ryan Henry called the event “a great success” and found it “most valuable.”

Over the course of the morning exercise, participants discussed an array of national security issues related to the H5N1 avian influenza virus. The dialogue provided insights into the domestic impact of international public health crises and highlighted the layers of a combined Federal and state response. National and Hawaii pandemic preparedness were often scrutinized.

From Washington, representatives from the Federal departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture, State, and Homeland Security, including the U.S. Coast Guard, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the U.S. Pacific Command, among others, attended. A Hawaii perspective was provided by the governor, the mayor of Honolulu, Speaker of the Hawaii State House of Representatives Calvin Say, and numerous other Hawaii officials, including the Adjutant General, MG Robert G. F. Lee.

Immediately following the exercise, participants shared their thoughts with PDUSD Henry and the rest of the attendees during a plenary, “hot wash” session. Participants noted that *Global Tempest* afforded them a better understanding of the transnational nature of pandemic diseases, and the unique pressures they place on any domestic response. Some attendees observed that the exercise authentically portrayed the devastating impact such a public health crisis could have on the U.S. economy, and, in turn, the continued need for active cooperation across Federal, state, and local governments.

This state-level execution of *Global Tempest* represented the nineteenth strategic game in a series of SPF events for Federal, state, and local officials dating back to 2002. More than one hundred twenty Members of Congress have participated in SPF events, many of them return participants. Governor Linda Lingle is the first governor to host an SPF state-level exercise.

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