By Barbara Hengey

An NPS faculty-student team has developed a mathematical model that determines the best combination and deployment of search platforms to detect and classify self-propelled semi-submersible (SPSS) mini-submarine platforms that are estimated to carry up to 75 percent of all cocaine entering the United States.

"These stealthy little devils can carry tons of cocaine and are difficult to find because they have low visual, acoustic, radar and infrared signatures," said Operations Research (OR) Distinguished Professor Gerald "Barney" Brown, "but we've solved the problem." Brown noted. "So the one parallel we have with semi-submersibles is that the model we've developed provides useful insights for the allocation of search platforms and the search of the vast area of the ocean," said Pfeiff.

Finding a semi-submersible is like finding a needle in a haystack, except the haystack is the vast area of the ocean," said Pfeiff. "And even if we can find the needle, we have to determine the best use of search platforms and classify SPSS, so we come up with a consistent optimal plan for defenders: use a mixed [probabilistic] strategy to shape the attackers' routes by positioning search assets to force the vessels into choke points where they are more easily spotted, identified and interdicted."

By Joan Ackerman

Military strategists have long valued the power of maintaining peace through the prevention of war, but perhaps nothing can be stronger than it is right now. Case in point, the Maritime Strategy for the 21st Century, a landmark national security strategy that aligning the U.S. sea services under a single vision, lists as one of its guiding directives the importance of not just winning wars, but preventing them.

NPS is responding to this vision, aligning several entities to build international and national partnerships, and fostering collaboration and coordination in areas related to international academic relationships, building partner capacity and analyzing the impact of globalization on our national security policy — with the emphasis on 'prevention' of global crises as a key force multiplier.

Led by the efforts of Provost Leonard Ferrari, two keys to the success of this endeavor are the formation of the Global Policy Public Academic Group (GPPAG) early this year, in addition to several international outreach efforts expanded through strategic partner- ship agreements with institutions in Sweden, Singapore, Jordan, Bosnia, Moldova, Egypt, and with the NATO headquar- ters in Brussels, Belgium.

A team from the NPS faculty student team was actually already in place at NPS in May 2004, the U.S. State Department has utilized the United States Partnership for Peace Training and Education Center (USPTC), the only such center in the country. The USPTC acts as our nation's contribution to NATO's Education for Reform Initiative, Partnership for Peace Pro- gram, and the NATO Defense Institution Building efforts.

In 2009, the USPTC was tapped by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to lead a three-year partnership proj- ect to develop capacity at the PTC of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) in Sarajevo. Hazard's team spent the last half of 2009 planning and developing a strategy for partnership- ship with the PSOTC to offer niche, sustainable coursework for the region.

"We're proud of the work we've started in Bosnia, and we're commit- ted to a sustainable plan for success," said the USPTC, we have access to a broad range of top-quality e-learning and campus re- sources here at NPS, allowing us to develop and deliver relevant, unique coursework for the region," Hazard said.

According to Hazard, partner capacity building for security and sta- bility is a continuing focus for NPS as a whole. The USPTC, based on DoD, NATO, and the U.S. State Department objec- tives, is currently focusing on three key areas: the role of women in security and stability for Defense Institution Building; building capacity, diminishing corruption and graft; and, strategic collaboration and leadership in complex environments.

In 2009, the USPTC was tapped by the USPTC to offer niche, sustainable coursework for the region. The USPTC, which offers individual licenses that are valid for one year from the time of purchase, is used to train senior-level course instructors and provides flexibility to those interested in taking courses with a specific library. If you are interested in taking online courses through www.golearn.gov, please visit the site, and click on the “Courses” feed, where you can view the vast number of courses and select which course is most relevant to your needs. For more information, please contact Laura Cole at lacole@nps.edu.
Happy New Year! I hope the New Year finds you healthy, well rested and ready to take on the challenges of the upcoming year. I foresee a busy and eventful 2010 with numerous inspections, audits and accreditations on our horizon. As much as I would like our faculty and staff to focus on our core mission, the time is now to put on our game face to tackle head-on the inspections and audits that await us.

I have been lucky enough to be associated off and on for over 20 years with this esteemed institution, and during that time I’ve seen some phenomenal changes. The campus infrastructure has improved immensely, many thanks to Mr. Pete Dusen and his team for their outstanding efforts. The student population demographics have also changed; not only have numbers of students from other services increased but also the international student presence has soared.

Additionally, the curricula at NPS have significantly evolved to meet the requirements and needs of our warfighters. New programs like homeland security, information operations, and cybersecurity are only a few examples of what is happening. The campus is more diverse with more international students, faculty and staff. The faculty and staff have become more diverse as well.

This is all being accomplished as we continue our mission to prepare our next generation of leaders to lead in the dynamic and complex world we confront today and tomorrow.

Warmest wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year at NPS for all...

Derek D. Brown, Ph.D.
Dean
Naval Postgraduate School

Message From
Chief of Staff Col. Andrew “Pete” Boerlage, USAF

Dear NPS Community,

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Familiar Faces Welcome NPS Personnel

By Monica Ganim

These are well known faces... They are the ones first seen in the mornings the ones from which warm embraces and encouraging words flow throughout the day. These are the faces of officers William Larkin, Stearcy White and Richard Rodriguez. These three officers came to the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in late 2008, originally hired through a contractor. In mid-2009, however, the contract was terminated and the three officers applied for federal positions at the base, in place of which new guards, Larkin, White and Rodriguez were hired.

According to White, many at NPS are married into the military, and finding you healthy, well rested and ready to take on the challenges of the upcoming year.

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