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Briefing

Smiths Detection contracted for X-ray tech

Published: Jan. 8, 2008 at 11:35 AM
 PINE BROOK, N.J., Jan. 8 (UPI) -- New Jersey-based Smiths Detection announced it has been contracted by a U.S. government agency for its X-ray cargo-screening technologies.

ITAC releases analysis of 2008 ID theft

Published: Jan. 8, 2008 at 11:32 AM
 WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (UPI) -- The Washington-based non-profit Identity Theft Assistance Center has released a study of identity-theft crimes in 2007 with prediction analysis for 2008.

NetSecurity launches forensics facility

Published: Jan. 8, 2008 at 11:28 AM
 STERLING, Va., Jan. 8 (UPI) -- Virginia-based NetSecurity Corp. announced the launch of a new secure forensics investigation facility, NetSecurity Forensic Labs.

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Analysis

Outside View: Japan goes ABM

Published: Jan. 8, 2008 at 11:15 AM
 By PYOTR GONCHAROV
 UPI Outside View Commentator
 MOSCOW, Jan. 8 (UPI) -- The U.S. anti-ballistic missile program has crossed the boundaries of Russian-U.S. relations and, to all appearances, will soon acquire larger global significance now that Japan is following the American footsteps to establish its own sea- and land-based ABM system. The plan was already announced and is rapidly being built up.

BMD Watch: Japan scores BMD breakthrough

Published: Jan. 8, 2008 at 11:15 AM
 By MARTIN SIEFF
 UPI Senior News Analyst
 WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (UPI) -- Japan's ballistic missile defense program took a giant leap forward last week with its first successful interception of a ballistic missile with a U.S.-built Standard Missile-3 off Kauai Island, Hawaii.

Thompson Files: Reforming the NRO

Published: Jan. 8, 2008 at 11:14 AM
 By LOREN B. THOMPSON
 ARLINGTON, Va., Jan. 8 (UPI) -- The National Reconnaissance Office, the organization that manages America's spy satellites, is a relic: It hasn't managed to grow its intelligence collection and processing capabilities, leading some policymakers to conclude that major reform is needed.

Outside View: CFE talks facts -- Part 2

Published: Jan. 7, 2008 at 11:04 AM
 By SERGEI OZNOBISHCHEV
 UPI Outside View Commentator
 MOSCOW, Jan. 7 (UPI) -- It would be odd for Russia to be seriously worried about a higher level of military threat after NATO admitted Poland, Bulgaria, Romania and the three Baltic countries of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia as member nations. But not everyone can afford to follow this logic -- military experts, diplomats and lawyers have to be guided by military balance figures and contractual provisions until they receive other signals or documents from political leaders.

Defense Focus: Year in review -- Part 2

Published: Jan. 7, 2008 at 11:01 AM
 By MARTIN SIEFF
 UPI Senior News Analyst

Industry - Briefing

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GeoCritical releases terror risk tool

Published: Dec. 13, 2007 at 11:07 AM

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LANSING, Mich., Dec. 13 (UPI) -- Michigan-based GeoCritical LLC announced the release of a new assessment tool for end users to better evaluate the vulnerability of assets to terror attacks.

GeoCritical's new GeoCritical Terror Index Score is an effort to offer an evaluation aid for corporate assets and their proximity to locations of historical terror attacks by creating geographic representations of extensive terrorism data.

Officials say the data used to create the assessment to assist corporate stakeholders with mitigating risks for overseas operations is drawn from U.S. government sources and analyzed by counter-terrorism experts.

"The GTIS is a customized product tailored specifically toward each client's individual requirements based on their geographic footprint, and populated with current, comprehensive terror attack data ... providing decision makers with specific actionable intelligence in a dynamic environment," the release said.

"As criminologists know, the best predictor of future events is past events," Daniel Kennedy, University of Detroit Mercy professor of criminal justice and security administration, said in a statement.

"The best predictor of terrorist attacks would therefore be past terrorist attacks. As suggested in the landmark legal case of *Timberwalk v. Cain*, the foreseeability of terrorist attacks is based on five factors: frequency, similarity, recency, proximity and publicity of past attacks. The probability of attack would increase exponentially based on these factors."

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (UPI) -- The year 2007 was a year when several major powers served notice that U.S. weapons superiority in every field and class wasn't going to remain an uncontested monopoly.

Analysis: China's ability to sustain war

Published: Jan. 4, 2008 at 8:30 PM

By ANDREI CHANG

HONG KONG, Jan. 4 (UPI) -- Should a conflict break out across the Taiwan Strait, Taiwanese forces would face a grave shortage of ammunition after just seven days of fighting. Even though China has a much greater stockpile of ammunition than Taiwan, it would also encounter similar problems in a sustained conflict.

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