

CLASSIFICATION: **UNCLASSIFIED**

AY 2016-2017

PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH TOPIC NOMINATION

*CLASSIFICATION:	Unclassified
*RESEARCH TOPIC TITLE:	Southwest Border Joint Interagency Training Center (JITC)
*TOPIC DESCRIPTION	Assess the utility and feasibility of a Joint Interagency Training Center (JITC) concept. If useful and feasible, develop options for its creation. Address existing structures, resourcing, authorities, and policies and any necessary changes to these factors.
*DATE SUBMITTED (YYYY-MM-DD)	2016-06-17
*EXTENDED TOPIC DESCRIPTION	Several factors suggest the possible utility of a “Joint Interagency Training Center” (JITC) on the southwest U.S. border. First, as DoD resources decrease, DoD may be able to fund fewer units to attend combat training centers such as the Army’s National Training Center (NTC), the Army’s Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC), and the Marine Corps’ Enhanced Mohave Viper (EMV). Second, while recent conflicts have driven the military to fight as a joint, interagency force with a whole of government approach, existing training centers can only partially simulate a robust joint, interagency environment. Finally, existing training centers focus on Brigade (O6) command level organizations and below, while joint headquarters are generally General Officer/Flag Officer level commands. Currently, GOFO level commands and staffs are largely limited to training through “Command Post Exercises” and computer simulations. One option to address these issues is to build on the current Joint Task Force North (JTFN) construct to create a Joint Interagency Training Center. JTFN supports law enforcement counter-narcotic efforts with DoD units conducting missions in a training status. These units conduct missions such as detection and monitoring, mobility support (i.e. road construction), and intelligence analysis in a freeplay, unscripted environment against a “real world,” thinking, adaptive transnational criminal adversary. Building from this existing concept, the Department of Defense could create a JITC by combining existing training facilities and federal land across the south-west border. GOFO level commands and staffs (i.e. a division headquarters) could command and control multiple diverse, joint active duty, multi-compo units in training missions spread across a wide geographic area and against a thinking, adaptive adversary while simultaneously collaborating with multiple federal law enforcement agencies.
*DESIRED OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH	Develop expanded options for realistic joint and interagency training.
*REQUESTING/SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:	Joint Task Force North (JTFN)
*POINT OF CONTACT:	Mr. Steve Wilke
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DESIRED RESEARCH COMPLETION DATE (YYYY-MM-DD):	Standing topic – not time sensitive.
AVAILABLE FUNDING, IF	Case-by-case Basis, Contact:

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COMMENTS	JTFN can also provide additional details on the types of training missions DoD units have historically conducted on the southwest border, AARs of DoD units that have conducted those missions, and points of contact to leaders in those units.

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