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STATEMENT OF
COLONEL PAUL R. DISNEY, USA
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
JOINT TASK FORCE NORTH
BEFORE THE
HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
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Chairman Hunter, Ranking Member Skelton, and distinguished Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify regarding Joint Task Force North (JTF-N) and U.S. Northern Command's (USNORTHCOM) efforts to support civilian law enforcement agencies in the fight against drug trafficking and other transnational threats. Support to law enforcement is an important element in USNORTHCOM's mission to deter, prevent and defeat threats to the homeland, because of its direct applicability to the Global War on Terror (GWOT).

Transnational threats include international terrorism, narcotics trafficking, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and organized crime. Terrorists have considered using smuggling networks and have used money laundering to achieve their goals and fund activities. As JTF-N supports law enforcement agencies in the fight against drugs, we also focus our efforts on terrorist organizations with a nexus to drug trafficking. JTF-N supports the GWOT at home by providing military unique capabilities to support civilian law enforcement agencies. By doing this, we support the Strategy for Homeland Defense and Civil Support by enabling our federal law enforcement partners as they interdict transnational threats to our nation.

My prepared testimony addresses how JTF-N supports border security efforts on the northern border with United States federal law enforcement agencies and their Canadian counterparts.

Established in 1989 as JTF-6, JTF-N was transformed and re-designated as JTF-N in September 2004. The mission of JTF-N is to coordinate military support to law enforcement agencies and facilitate interagency synchronization in order to deter and prevent threats from entering the homeland. Its area of operations runs from border to border and coast to coast, but focuses on the approaches to our homeland.

Current FY06 funding for JTF-N activities is approximately \$10.3 million. This consists of Military Support to Civilian Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the continental United States in support of the National Defense Strategy, the National Strategy for Homeland Security and the National Drug Control Strategy. This assistance includes more than 50 different missions

that are broadly grouped into three categories: (1) intelligence support, (2) operational support, and (3) Theater Security Cooperation.

Intelligence support includes employing military intelligence analysts to develop operational intelligence products that are used by all our interagency partners for early cueing, warning and interdiction operations. Consistent with intelligence oversight requirements, training and collaboration between DoD and law enforcement intelligence analysts ensure seamless coverage within the operating area. Our intelligence professionals provide a real-time link between JTF-N and key centers of intelligence in North America in order to develop situational awareness for early cueing and warning. Most recently, in support of a joint United States and Canadian Border Threat Assessment, our intelligence personnel prepared products to assist detection and deterrence of cross-border illicit trafficking. They work hand in hand with law enforcement counterparts, fostering a mutually supportive relationship.

Operational support includes detection missions using a variety of sensors that are unique to the DoD in order to improve a supported law enforcement agency's ability to detect, monitor, and interdict transnational threats. Some examples of our operational support missions on the northern border include:

Operation WINTER FREEZE. At the request of the Department of Homeland Security, JTF-N deployed forces to tighten security along the northeast border of the United States during the fall and winter of 2004-2005. As directed by the Secretary of Defense and the Commander of USNORTHCOM, JTF-N provided indirect military support to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Border Patrol. This support included ground and airborne reconnaissance, unique military equipment, personnel to operate this equipment, and DoD intelligence on transnational threats.

Operation SAN JUAN. This multi-sensor air domain mission, in June 2005, supported the USBP's Blaine Washington Sector and developed into a joint, interagency, bi-national, all domain operation to interdict transnational threats exploiting the complex international border in the San Juan Islands/Puget Sound region of the Province of British Columbia, Canada and

Washington State. Operation SAN JUAN brought together elements from the following U.S. organizations:

- Customs and Border Protection
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management
- Federal Aviation Administration
- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Army
- North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)
- USNORTHCOM
- Washington National Guard
- Georgia Air National Guard
- State and local police

Canadian participants included: the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), the Canadian Marine Security Operations Center, the Bi-National Integrated Border Enforcement Team and the Integrated Border Intelligence Team. All participants benefited from increased threat awareness and interagency coordination.

Operation LAKEVIEW. In support of the USBP's Buffalo Sector, JTF-N planned and facilitated Operation LAKEVIEW from July to September 2005. Designed to improve the interdiction of transnational threats in the maritime domain of Lake Ontario, this bi-national, multi-sensor, multi-agency operation expanded to include the maritime domain of Lake Erie and the contiguous land and air domains. This was the first JTF-N mission to operationalize a DoD-

funded coastal defense system designed to provide a command, control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance node capable of fusing multi-sensor, multi-source information into a common operational picture. During Operation LAKEVIEW, JTF-N documented over 7,900 vessels and tracked over 300 radar targets at any given time. This operation validated developmental technology and opened lines of communications while establishing productive relationships among participants.

Operation OUTLOOK. In June 2006, JTF-N participated in Operation OUTLOOK, which involved multi-sensor DoD support to federal law enforcement agencies and interagency partners combining Title 10 and multi-state Title 32 military forces. Washington Air National Guard Counterdrug Task Force Title 32 forces provided Reconnaissance/Observation Support. Title 10 forces, under the command of JTF-N, provided ground-based, mobile ground-to-air Sentinel radars. DoD assets were used to increase detection of low flying helicopters and ground smuggling conveyances for transporting contraband between the U.S. and Canada, for subsequent law enforcement agency interdiction.

Tunnel Detection. Applying DoD and intelligence community technology and intelligence analysis in support of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, JTF-N detected three tunnels on the southwest border with Mexico and confirmed the existence of one tunnel on the northern border with Canada. In conjunction with its homeland security and intelligence community partners, JTF-N continues tunnel detection efforts along the U.S. border.

In 2005, USNORTHCOM initiated coordination with multiple federal agencies for further development of tunnel detection technology, which will benefit not only JTF-N and our law enforcement agency partners, but also U.S. Central Command in Southwest Asia.

ARDENT SENTRY 06. ARDENT SENTRY 06, part of the National Exercise Program, was a robust exercise designed to train NORAD and USNORTHCOM in homeland security and homeland defense operations. The exercise dates for USNORTHCOM involvement were 8-19 May 2006, but to take full advantage of border security situations and the availability of interagency partner participation, JTF-N started on 5 May 2006. One scenario during ARDENT

SENTRY 06 was border security operations in the state of Maine. The Atlantic and Eastern Regional Integrated Border Enforcement Teams (IBET) and Canada Command's Joint Task Force-Atlantic participated in this part of the exercise. The five core agencies represented in IBET Regional Coordination Groups were the RCMP, Canadian Border Security Agency, USCG, USBP and ICE. An advanced planning team from JTF-N engaged these agencies, local and state officials, as well as members of the Maine National Guard. The table-top exercise included discussions on future security operations and contingency plans that may involve JTF-N along the U.S./Canadian border. ARDENT SENTRY 06 helped formulate the JTF-N FY07 campaign plan and spawned a developing partnership with Canada Command.

In addition to assisting the law enforcement agencies, JTF-N operational and intelligence support missions provide military training opportunities for the Title 10 forces that conduct them. JTF-N recruits units to volunteer for these missions, soliciting forces from all Services, both active and reserve components. Unit commanders volunteer because of the realistic training opportunities and gratification from conducting a homeland defense mission.

The third JTF-N mission category is Theater Security Cooperation. Our relationship with Canada is strengthened with each collaborative engagement with the Integrated Border Enforcement and Intelligence Teams. JTF-N also performs cooperative efforts with Canada through Project NORTHSTAR, a multi-agency coordinating organization whose membership includes law enforcement organizations from Canada and federal, state and local drug law enforcement elements across the northern United States.

It is important to note that JTF-N's involvement in border security operations is always in support of civilian law enforcement agencies. We believe that our relationships with interagency partners are excellent and growing. With a 16-year track record of success and an expanded mission focused on all transnational threats, JTF-N is postured to take the next step with increased interagency collaboration to secure our nation.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to describe USNORTHCOM and JTF-N's support activities with regard to interdicting terrorists and drug traffickers. We are proud of the efforts of

our men and women in military uniform, civilian employees, and our civilian law enforcement partners, working together to protect our borders against drug trafficking and other transnational threats to our nation.