

Geospatial Intelligence for Internal Security – The Human Angle

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Why the Human Angle?

- Most articles on Geospatial Intelligence speak of mapping, terrain and geography.
- Remember -“man behind the Gun”.
- People are as much a component of geography - demography.
- There is often a disjoint between what is technically feasible and what is required.
- In any context, particularly ours, it is the human and organisational challenge that precludes effective implementation and use of GIS.

Preview

- ◉ The Human Aspect
- ◉ The Designer/Developer
- ◉ The Intelligence User
- ◉ The Tactical User
- ◉ Institutional Interface
- ◉ The Community

The Human Aspect

- Why is the human so important?
- An analysis of the many definitions on the internet indicates that “geospatial intelligence is the unifying structure of earth’s **natural and constructed** features map, chart or imagery AND knowledge derived from **other intelligence sources and disciplines**” .
- In most discussions the means of GIS is technical, very little is discussed about the human angle. A **human interface is vital** for effective use for this invaluable weapon in internal security duties.
- The **various facets of the human face of GIS** will be delineated in this presentation.

The Designer/Developer

- The importance of understanding what is technically feasible and what is operationally required.
- Developing a system that is usable by the person intended.
- Assess base user technology levels and do not expect high levels of user capability from every soldier or constable.

The Intelligence User

- Synthesise and superimpose intelligence from other sources (as opposed to raw data) on geospatial information.
- Consider that in an IS situation demographic information must be dovetailed into the GIS map.
- Create predictive algorithms based on history and user feedback. This predictive algorithm must allow the tactical user to develop preventive and proactive operations as opposed to reactive ones.

The Tactical User

- Understand the system.
- Assist in developing predictive algorithms in a manner that is usable.
- Generate useful statistics to make predictive employment possible.

Institutional Interface

- ◉ National intelligence grids and joint intelligence networks are expensive and have to be deployed at national level.
- ◉ Currently organisational restrictions and turf battles will preclude effective deployment of such a system.
- ◉ A coherent intelligence organisation is vital for true exploitation of GIS.

The Community

- Any demographic mapping necessarily means a violation of individual privacy and human rights at times.
- Constant conflict of the rights of the individual versus the perceived common good of intelligence will place enormous tensions on such a system.

Parting Thought

The technology is ready, are we?