



# *A Systems Approach to Border Security*

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# Role of Technology in Border Monitoring



- Detect and prevent illegal border crossings
  - Terrorists
  - Smugglers
  - Illegal immigrants
- Detect threats to fixed sites
  - Military outposts and bases
  - Other infrastructure
- Early detection of military attack
- Reduce risk of accidental conflict
- Potential to enhance bilateral or regional confidence



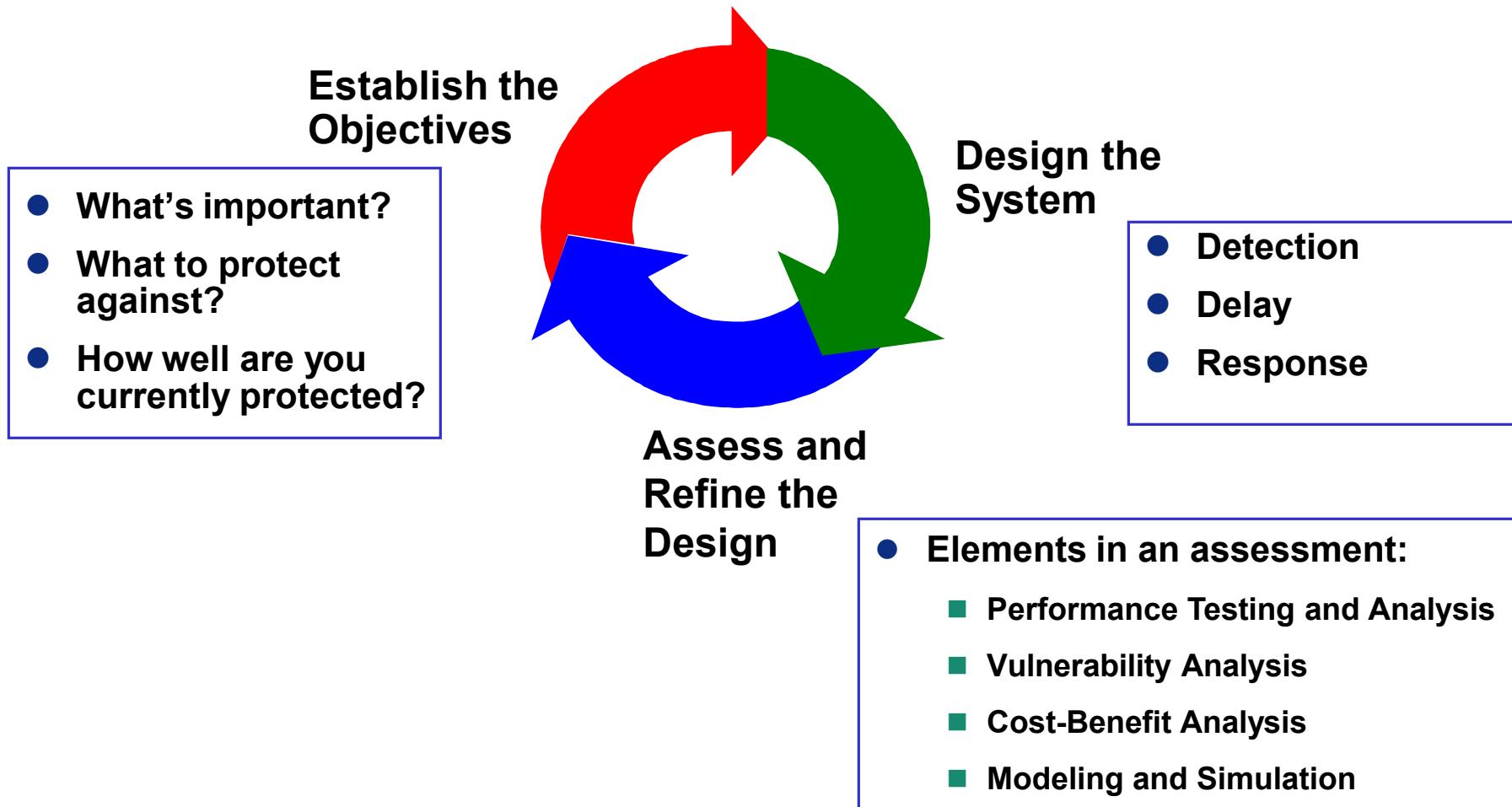


# Border Monitoring Approach



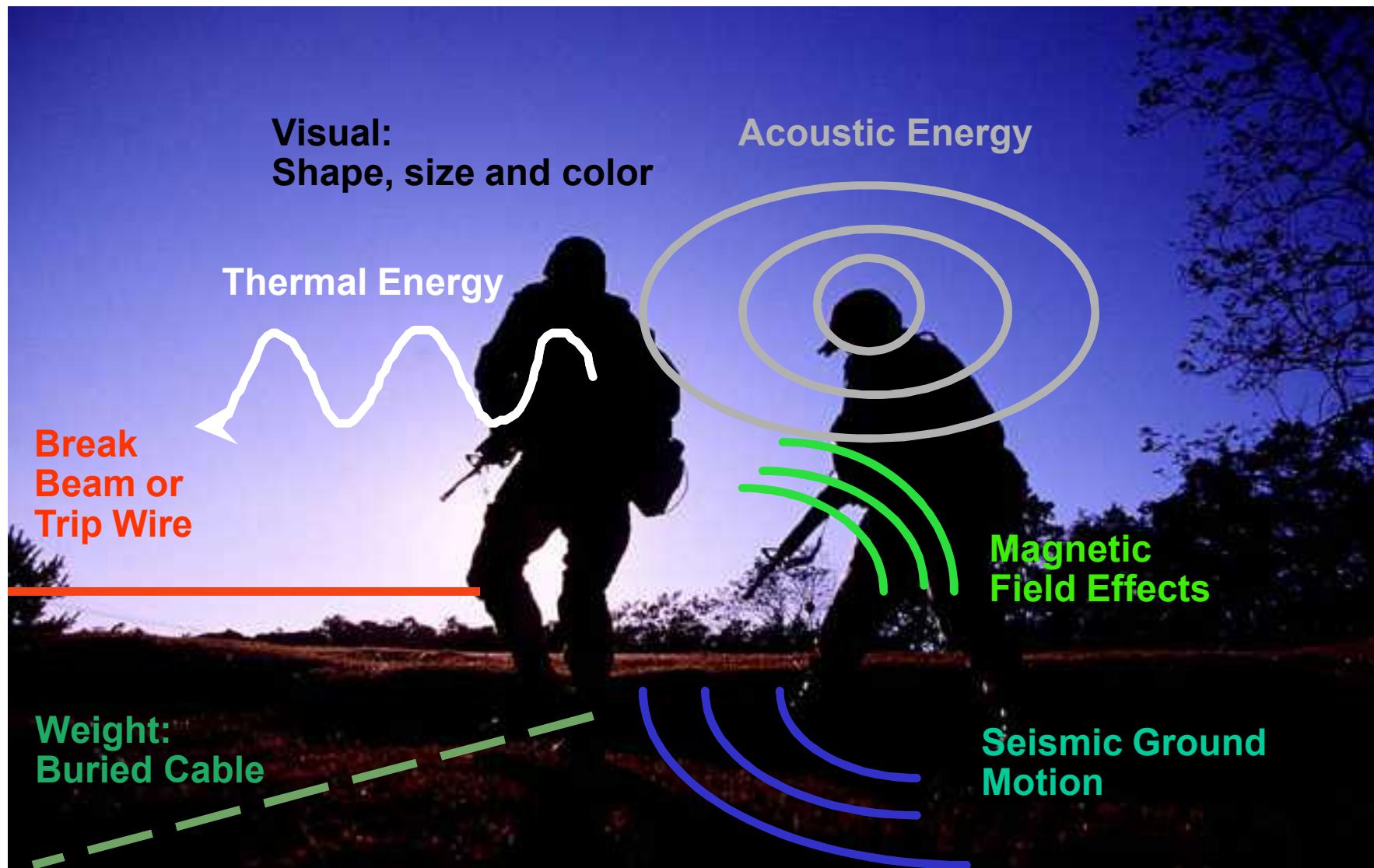
- Border monitoring is one element of border security that includes: detection, tracking and/or delay, and response
- Monitoring techniques
  - patrols
  - observation posts
  - ground-based sensors
  - aerial/satellite remote sensing
- Monitoring strategy
  - assess threats and set operational objectives
  - undertake systems approach to meet objectives
  - focus on militarily significant activities and high-risk areas
  - balance cost with benefit
  - coordinate with existing security and national technical means systems
  - blend technical and non-technical types of monitoring
  - monitoring in depth

# Focus is on the process of developing a border security system





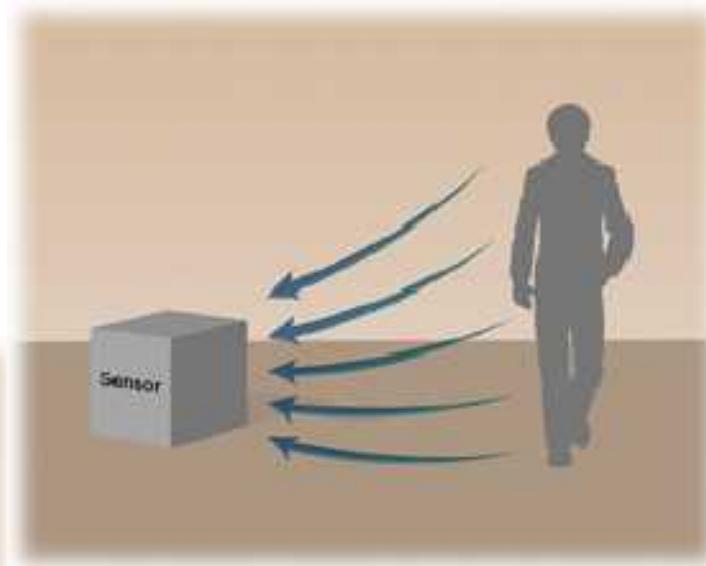
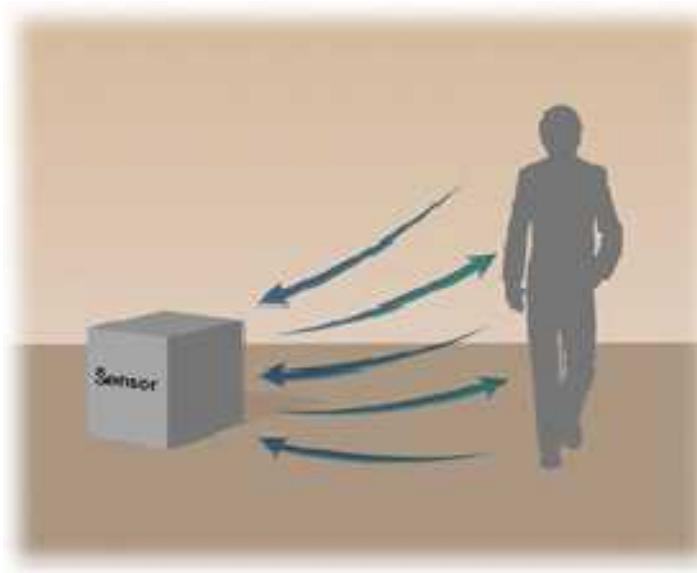
# Example Sensor Measurements



# Active and Passive Sensors



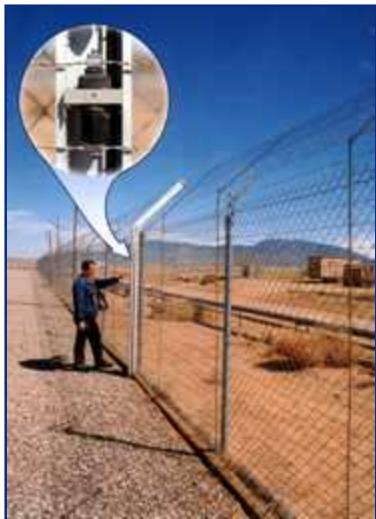
**Active sensors emit energy and measure reflected response**



**Passive sensors respond to energy emitted by external sources**



# Ground-Based Technologies for Border Monitoring



## Passive Sensors

*seismic, magnetic,  
infrared, acoustic,  
buried strain cables,  
fence sensors,  
optical systems*



## Active Sensors

*infrared break  
beams, ground  
radar, microwave*





# Many Sensors can also be Deployed on Remote Sensing Platforms



- Candidate Sensors
  - Optical cameras
  - Infrared imagers
  - Radar



**Manned Aircraft**



**Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)**



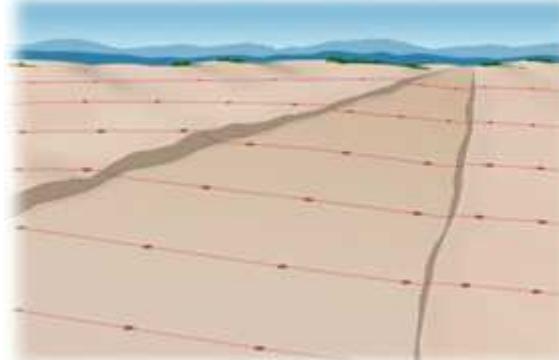
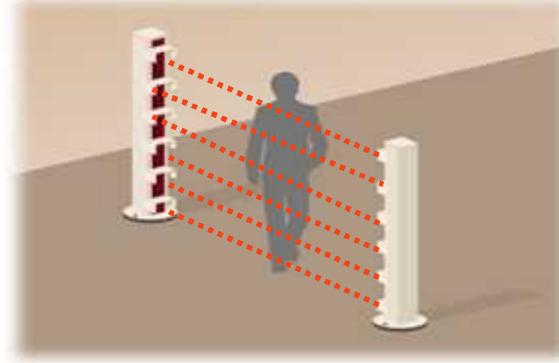
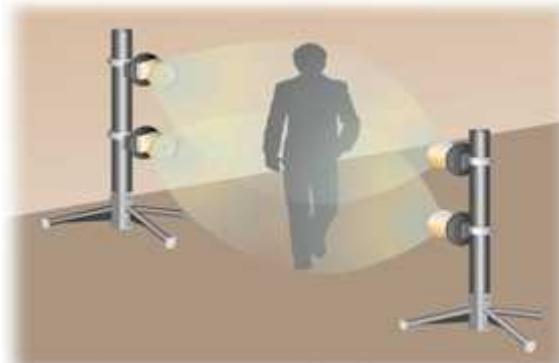
**Tethered Balloons**



# Other Sensor Concepts



- Volumetric vs. Line
- Line-of sight vs. terrain following
- Covert vs. Visible



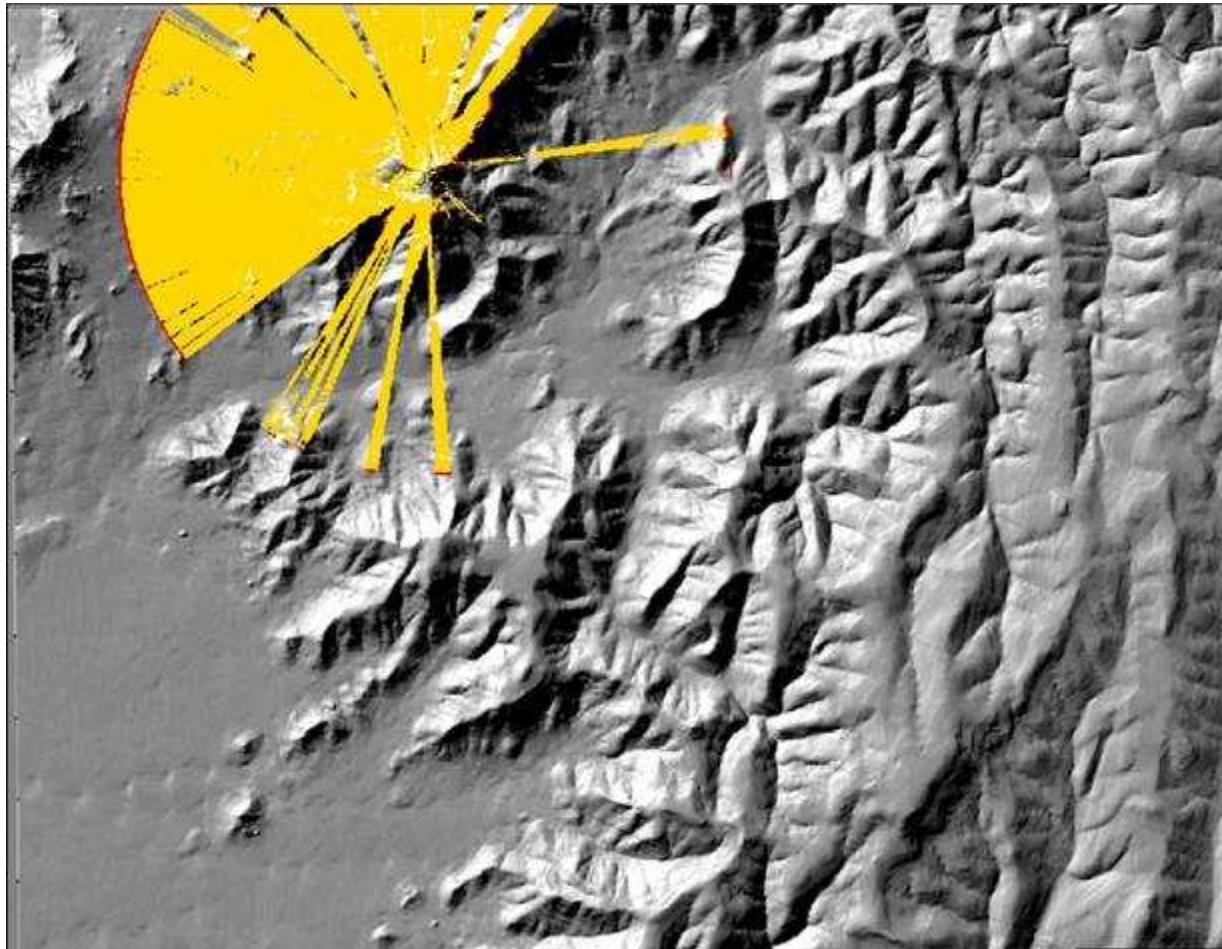
**Appropriate monitoring technologies will vary with mission and terrain**



# Example of line of sight calculated by software for a hilltop location

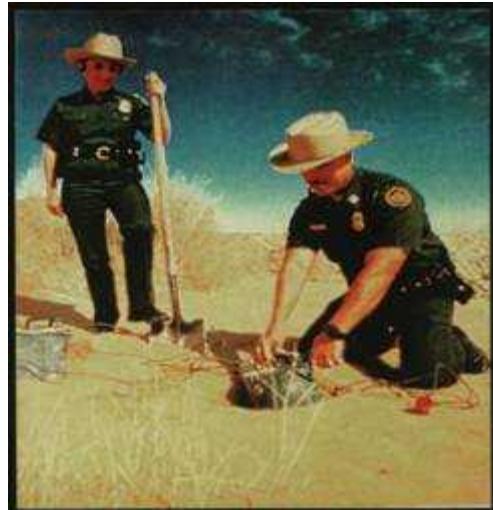


Yellow areas indicate locations where view is blocked by terrain





# Elements of Border Security System



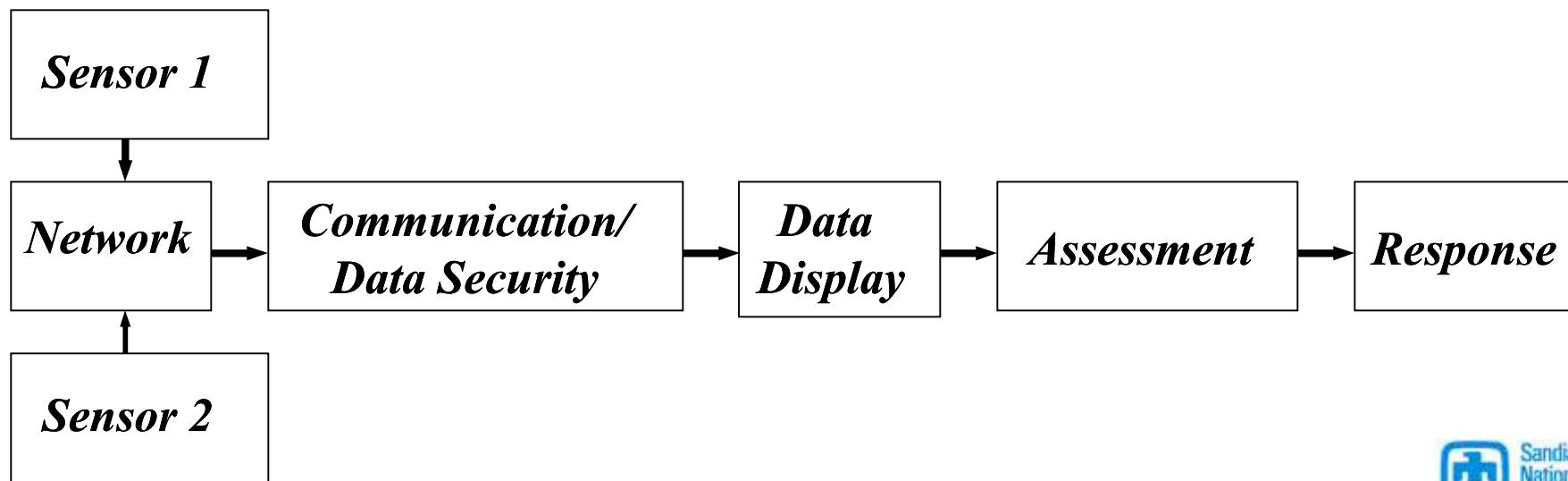
*Sensor Deployment*



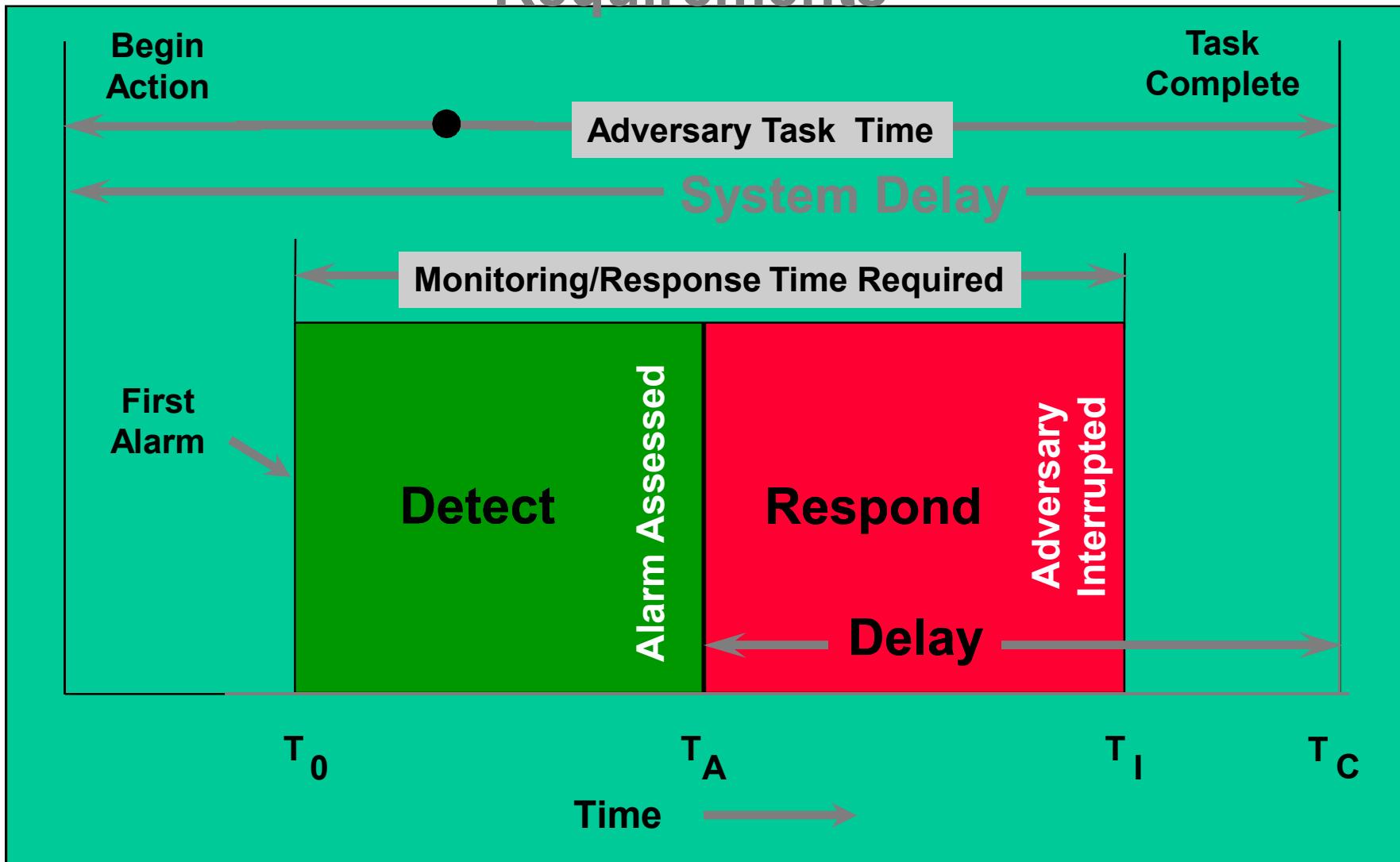
*Monitoring Center*



*Response Force*



# Adversary Task Time vs. Monitoring/Response System Time Requirements





# A Variety of Border Monitoring Applications and Configurations Exist



- Official crossing points/ports of entry
- Open Border
  - Flat
  - Mountainous
  - Maritime
- Observation Posts
  - Fixed
  - Mobile



# Monitoring for official ports of entry: Improve detection of contraband



- Apply screening techniques for drivers and vehicles
  - Ask questions based on terrorist profiles to identify suspicious drivers
  - Weight scales to detect suspicious loads
  - All trucks larger than a certain size are directed to an inspection facility
- Establish an inspection facility near border
  - Dedicated facility
  - X-ray screening of selected vehicles and packages
  - Tools to open packages
  - Hand-held chemical detection equipment



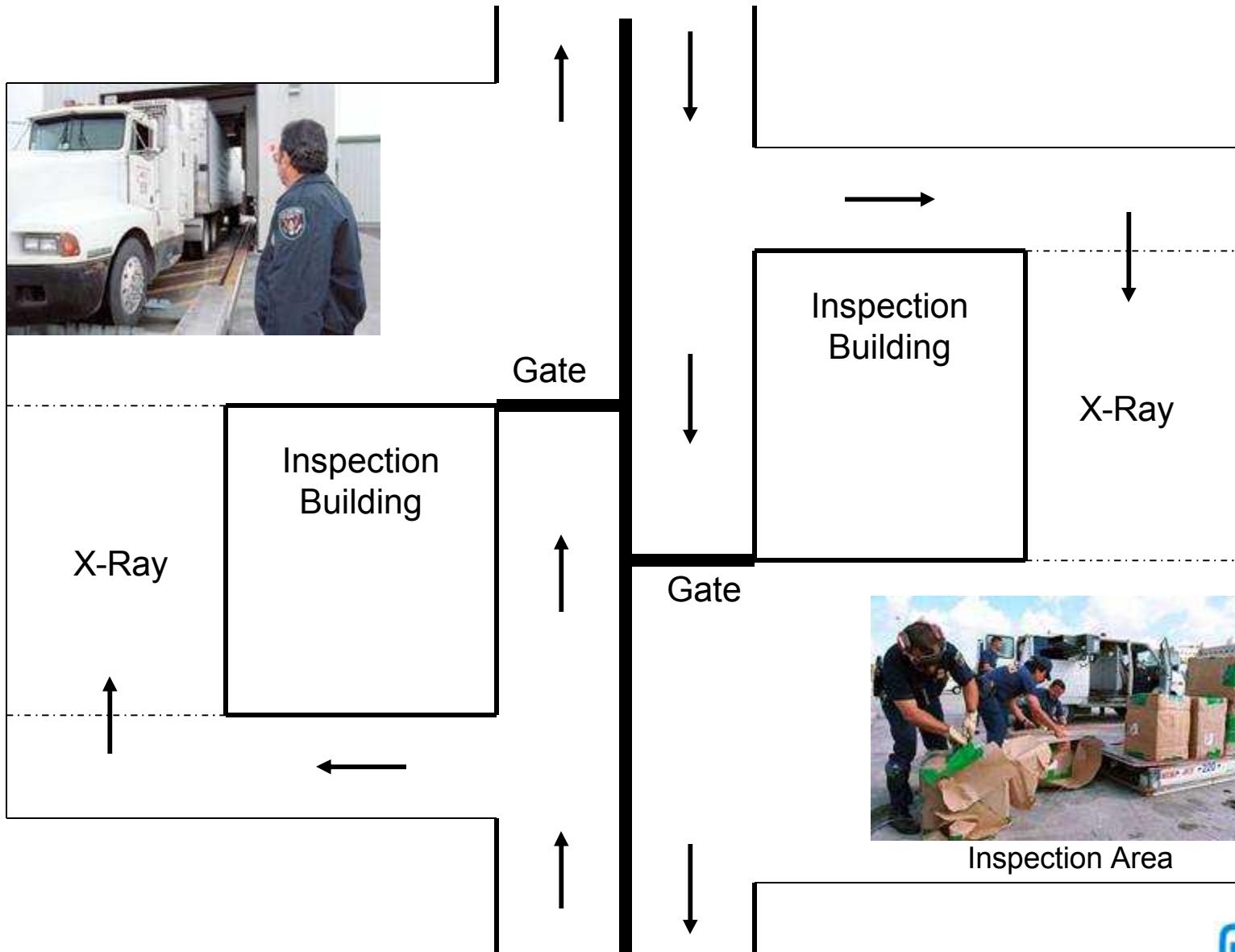
X-ray showing car in a truck



Weigh in-motion Scale



# Conceptual Diagram of an Inspection Area





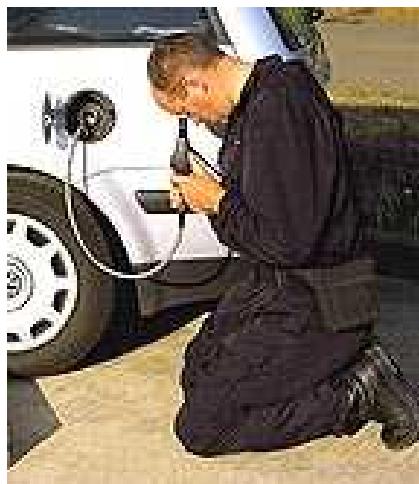
# Hand-Held Inspection Tools



Detectors for gaseous emissions from explosives and drugs



Narcotics identification



Fiber-optic tool to look inside enclosed spaces



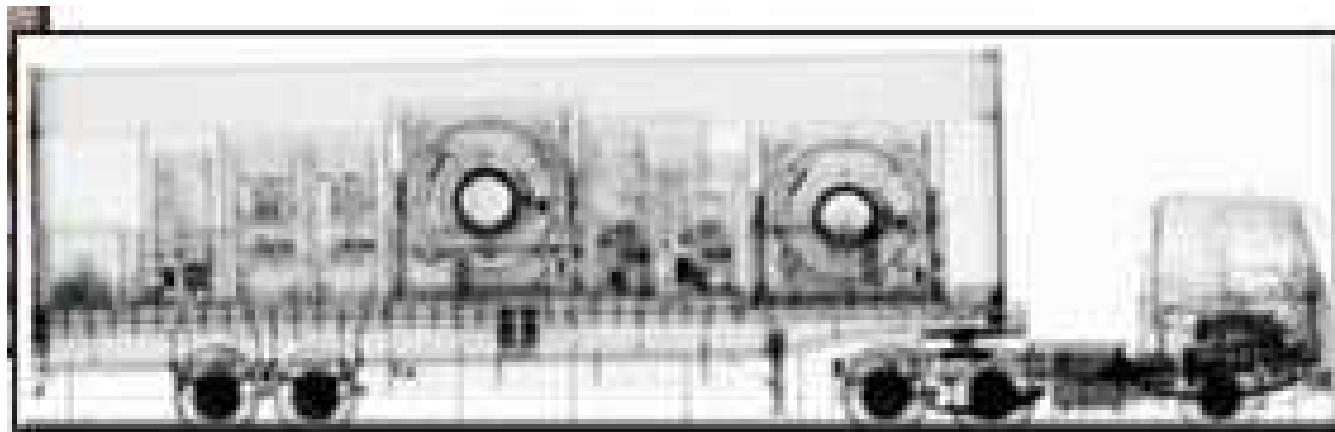
Sample collection from people or containers for explosive and drug residue



Metal detector for personnel or small package inspections



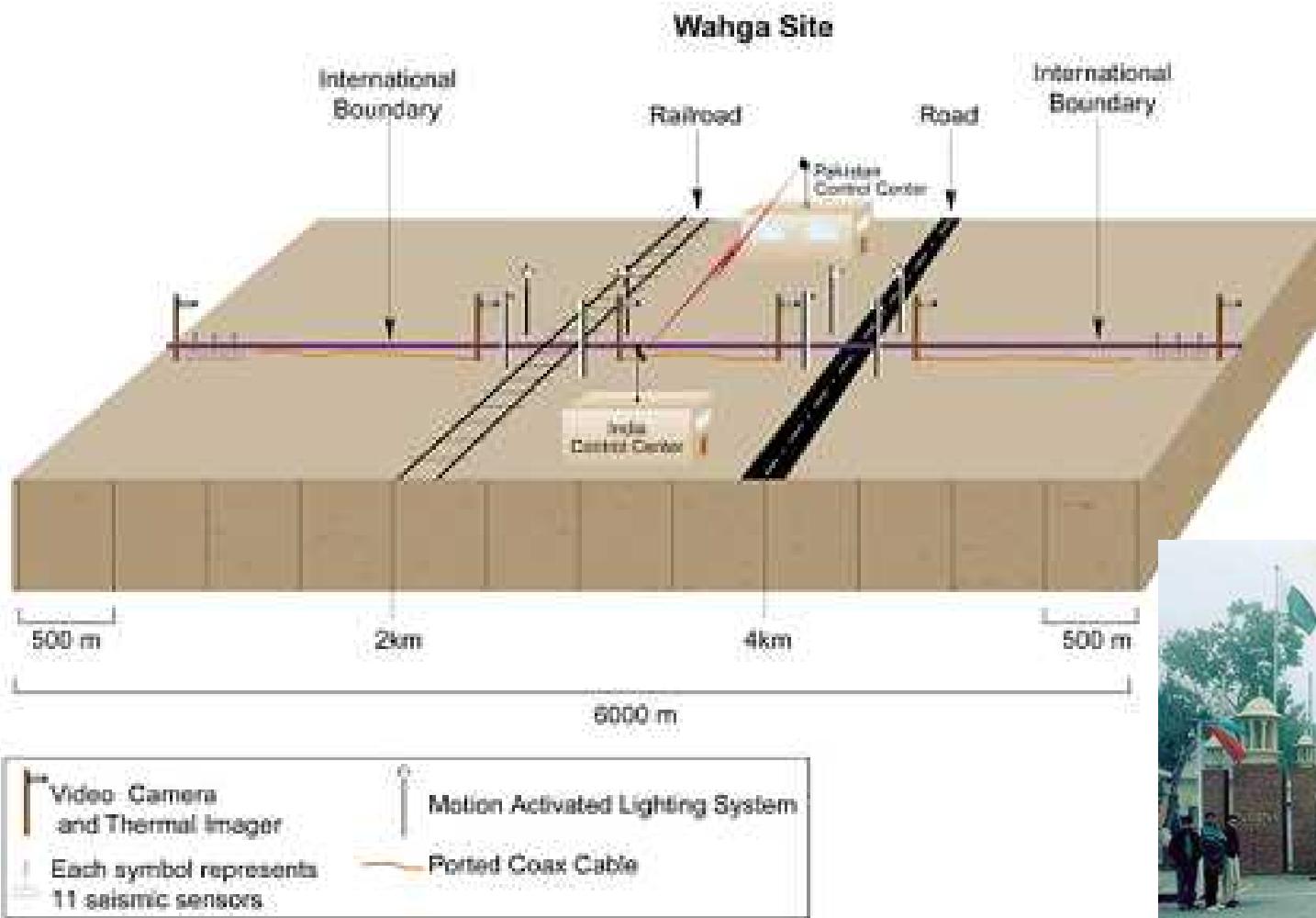
# X-Ray Inspection of Vehicles – Fixed or Mobile Systems



Note: radioactive source requires security protection



# Other Monitoring Systems Deployed for Cooperative Crossing Point Border Monitoring-- Proposed South Asia Example





# Monitoring plan for official ports of entry: Deter and detect bypass of border



- Establish fixed or mobile checkpoints on routes away from border
- Portable chemical and x-ray assessment equipment



**Mobile**



**Portable Lighting  
and generator**



**“Sky Watch” mobile  
observation post**

**Examples from US-Mexico Border**



# Flat Open Border Monitoring



- Characteristics
  - Long distances
  - Good line of sight
  - Low population density/infrastructure
- Technology Options
  - Selective use of unattended ground sensors
  - Video systems
  - Buried Fiber-Optic Cables
  - Ground-based Radar

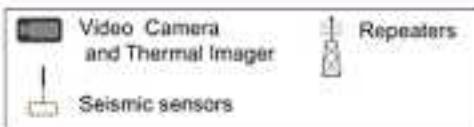
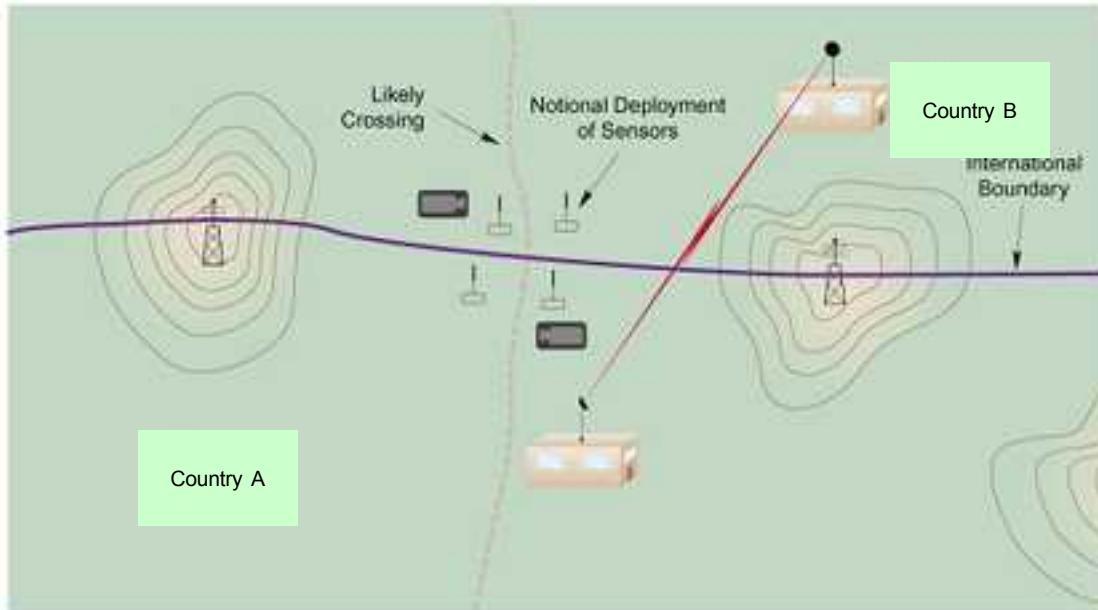




# Example Mountain Region Border Monitoring



thermal image

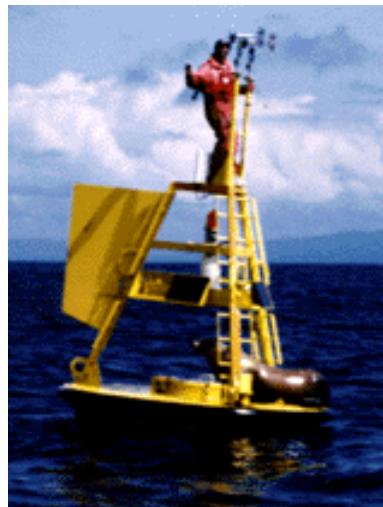




# Maritime Monitoring



- Port Security
- Vessel Tracking
- Boundary Marking





# Border Monitoring Application: Observation Posts (OPs)



- Goals
  - Detect illicit crossings
  - Enable response forces to interdict intruders
- Monitoring Objectives
  - Improve force protection measures
  - Increase probability of detecting intruders
    - particularly during poor weather and at night
    - coordinate response force actions
  - Enhance ability to conduct reconnaissance



# Monitoring plan for observation posts: Improve force protection



- The OP may become a target of criminal/terrorist attack
- Deploy sensor network in local area to detect intrusions
  - Install on paths or use to define a perimeter
  - Seismic and Infra-red break-beam sensors
  - Sensors report to OP
  - Assume sensors outside of an OP will be destroyed or stolen if visible
- System maintains efficiency of OP and protects morale



Multiple vendors produce sensor systems



# Monitoring plan for observation posts: Increase probability of detecting infiltration



- Deploy a hand-held night vision devices
- Deploy unattended ground sensors along paths and roads in the OP's area of responsibility
  - Seismic, magnetic, infrared
    - Exact combination of sensors depends on specific site
    - Terrain may require radio repeaters
    - Assume sensors outside of an OP will be destroyed or stolen if visible
  - Sensors alert observer to identify an intrusion if within OP's field of view or initiate reconnaissance in areas outside of field of view



**Night Vision System**



**Portable thermal imager**



# Increase probability of detection of infiltration: Use mobile observation posts



- Move mobile monitoring station to areas of concern based on:
  - Increasing levels of infiltration activity
  - Reports of pending infiltration
- Need unit to provide perimeter security



**US Border Patrol “Sky Watch”  
mobile observation post**



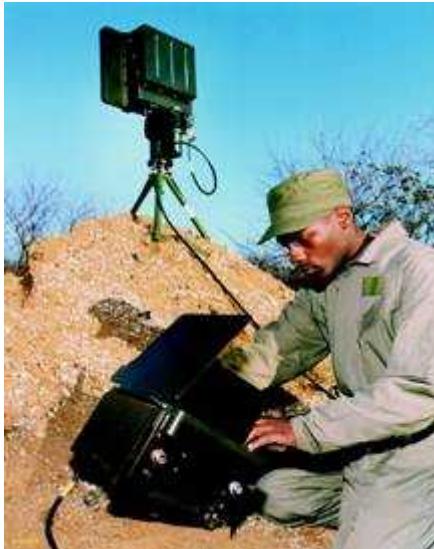
**Day / night cameras with  
high intensity spot light**



# Monitoring plan for observation posts: Increase probability of detecting infiltration

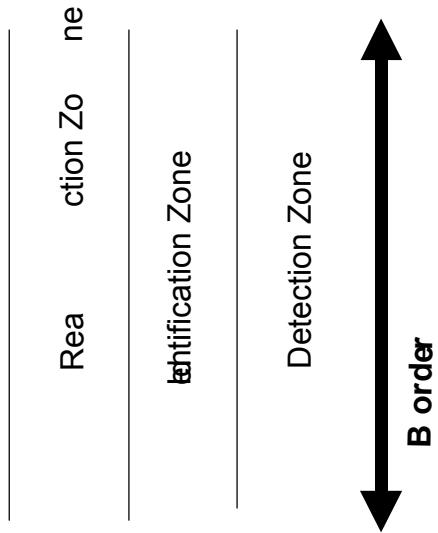


- Install portable ground scanning radar units at OPs with long fields of view
- Install tower inside OP with video and thermal imagers.
  - Zoom capability in imagers
  - OP provides security
  - Install armor plates to deflect bullets
  - Install portable diesel generator for power
  - Potentially mount on truck or trailer for mobility

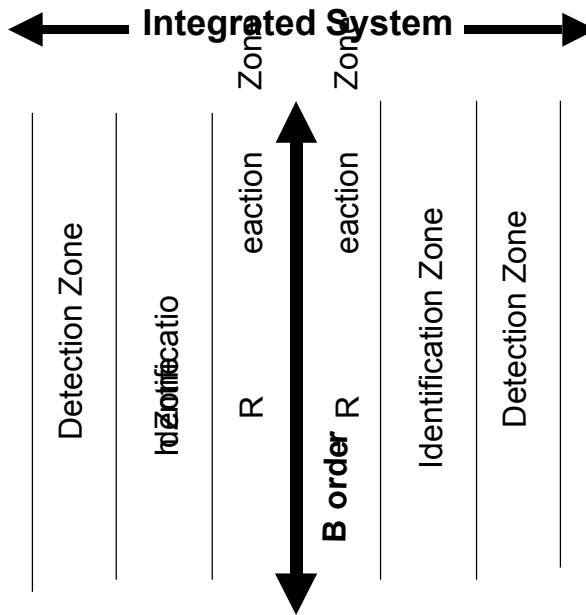




# Cooperation could improve the effectiveness of border monitoring and security



A. Unilateral Monitoring Model



B. Cooperative Monitoring Model

- Trans-border cooperative approach to monitoring
- A cooperative strategy reverses the usual order of detection, identification, and reaction



# Value of a Systems Approach to Design

- Without a systems approach:
  - Objectives of a system are not clearly defined.
  - Solutions may solve the wrong problem.
  - Solutions may provide little or no reduction in risk.
  - Cost effective solutions may be overlooked.
  - Resource allocations or resource requests are difficult to make and justify.



# Summary



- A systems approach to design is necessary to meet border security objectives
- Understanding the threat, objectives, and operational constraints are key starting points in a systems design process
- Monitoring technologies enhance the ability to detect cross-border movements
- A balance of human and technological solutions are needed
- Multiple sensor types are available for different applications, terrain and climate
- Using a combination of sensors to measure different signatures increases system effectiveness