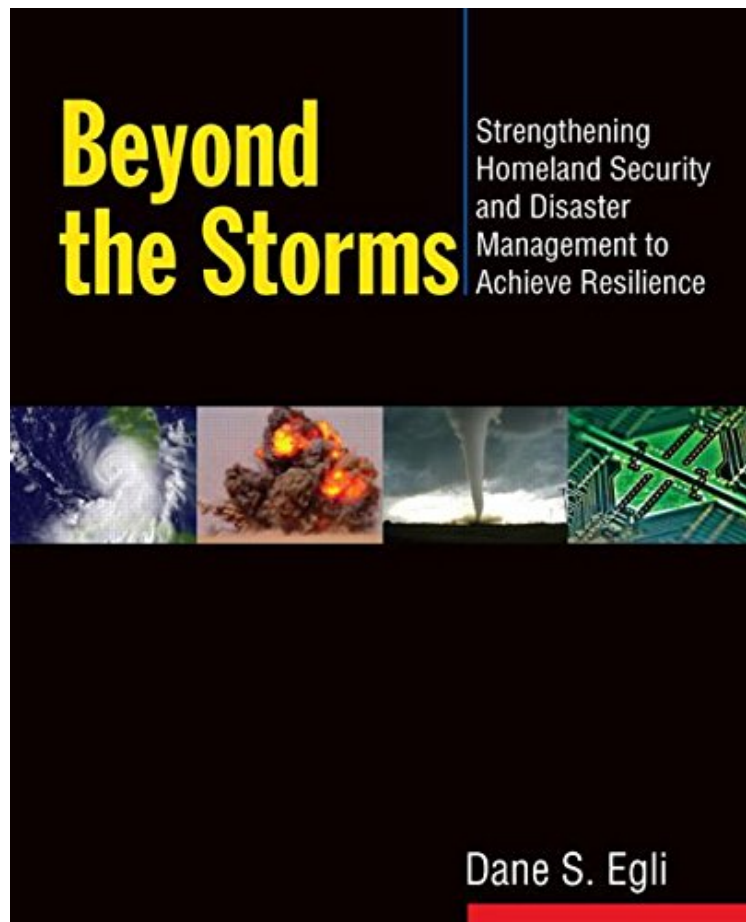


[Ebook pdf] Beyond the Storms: Strengthening Homeland Security and Disaster Management to Achieve Resilience

Beyond the Storms: Strengthening Homeland Security and Disaster Management to Achieve Resilience

Dane S Egli

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Dane S Egli : Beyond the Storms: Strengthening Homeland Security and Disaster Management to Achieve Resilience before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beyond the Storms: Strengthening Homeland Security and Disaster Management to Achieve Resilience:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A MUST READ FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKERS, and wake up call for the rest of us. By Derrick Warfel Dane Egli has written an excellent handbook of overviews, problems, insights, and solutions to move and inspire our nation (and in particular our emergency preparedness organizations) BEYOND THE STORMS of homeland security, resilience and disaster management. He has provided a rich resource of data and studies for evaluating current weaknesses in Critical Infrastructure Preparedness. But be warned, it is not light bedtime reading. Its chocked with synopses of studies, expert interviews,

charts, reference works and documentation for particularly those in decision making and management capacities both in the public and private sector which his significantly points out control 85% of all the nations critical infrastructure. The thesis of the work is that there is a breakdown in cooperation across various public and private agencies to work together in the 16 areas of infrastructure preparedness and mitigation afterwards; and that mere attempts to avoid disaster are not enough. This current world is a dangerous neighborhood with Mother Nature becoming more and more tempestuous, and the threat of asymmetrical terrorist attacks on the increase. What is needed is increased resilience to withstand and more quickly recover from attacks afterwards to maintain at the very least core operating functions of a society. Special features of the book include the extensive appendices detailing 13 case studies of major disasters and their effects, questions for symposium discussion, summaries by topic of over thirty five expert interviews from executives, academics, private industry, and field workers giving first hand debriefs on major disasters, a rich list of other data and charts, and of particular interest: an acronym dictionary for the alphabet soup of policy abbreviations used in the disaster preparedness and mitigation trade. A few items this current reader would have wished more of would be: some case studies which spoke more about the aftermath of various domestic terrorist attacks and not just natural disasters; a deeper exploration of the tension between how the whole-of-nation controlled approach to disaster management fit with our countrys deep commitment to the authority of individual states and the rights of privately owned businesses and individual citizens; and some specific real world examples to illustrate the rather technical trade language used to describe the analysis of weaknesses and solutions. Someone once described true intelligence as knowing what to do when you are confronted with a situation when you dont know what to do. To a certain extent Egli is saying the old Boy Scout motto of Be Prepared is not enough, we need to accept that there are certain things we may not be able to avoid, but we can plan for how to quickly recover from them while not losing critical infrastructure (resilience). When a boxer goes into a ring his trainer teaches him to weave and dodge and avoid getting hit, but getting hit is inevitable, so he also toughens his body to withstand the blows and has a corner man with first aid immediately on hand after the round finishes. Our current problem is our body is not prepared to withstand the blows and our corner man is dozing away and not as well organized as our trainer. Egli points out that there is little disagreement that the state of our nations infrastructure is broken and eroding rapidly and something must be done at the highest levels of government. He points out glaring examples of gaps in the critical supply chains, maritime security, cyber-security, deteriorating physical infrastructures, government fiefdoms, and weak spots in energy supply, critical manufacturing, health care provisions, and banking/financial services that certainly would keep one awake at night. For example a modern, antibiotic resistant, super-virus pandemic could within a matter of days or weeks disable up to 40% of the nations workforce. How would that affect our national security, daily food and energy needs, and financial stability. He points out that we dont even have an adequate risk map in place to contemplate how to react to such an incident. He rightly champions that the real problem is a growing public and government apathy over a decade after 9-11 to spend the money on the rare (or Black Swan) events and to assume It wont happen to me, or Ill deal with it when it happens. In BEYOND THE STORMS Egli sounds the bugle to call us back to what de Tocqueville said made American great: voluntary associations to creatively solve problems (and) the free action of the collective power of individuals. We all saw the amazing power of the collective American spirit in the bravery of ALL New Yorkers and indeed the entire country after 9-11. Egli encourages us to spend just a little of that same capital to develop resilience BEFORE the next inevitable, yet unplanned crisis strikes particularly since we seem to be living in an age when these Black Swan events seem to be becoming more common. The book is must reading for all in the local, state, and nations emergency preparedness fields and a good call to individual preparedness for the rest of us. Indeed, part of resilience is not to expect the government to be solely responsible to take care us in a crisis. In fact in many crises it may take a emergency management workers initially dealing with critical core infrastructure demands days to get to us. We need to reconnect with some of that American Spirit of frontier rugged individualism where we do for ourselves in troubled times and have enough left over to help our neighbor. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Smarter Approach to Disaster Management By Navibeau I have worked in Cyber-Security, and the Cyber world would have you believe that cyber-protection is the be-all end-all of societys need to cover our assets. I have heard that from the Cyber community for years. And then Beyond the Storms author Dane Egli walked up to the podium at a Cyber conference I was attending, and said that yes, cyber is a part of it, but certainly not all of it. Hes absolutely right: Cyber protection alone cannot be our only defense. Because we really dont have a clue what the next big threat is going to be. Beyond the Storms provides a lightning bolt of reality. The books many examples took me back to a temp job I had at FEMA. One disaster victim told me he called our FEMA hotline, after seeing the phone number on the side of the Goodyear blimp. I laughed and then realized he was serious. Think about it: HOW would you get your news, if the power was out for a week? Your laptop tablet cellphone are gathering dust, unable to be recharged. Your homes WiFi has been out since the power went out. Never before in human history has a society been so completely dependent on vulnerable upstream suppliers that we cannot even comprehend. We have built a dangerous, dangerous house of cards. Many of us just assume that everything we rely on, will always be available: Someday, we are going to get a nasty surprise. The list of natural and man-made disasters that could ruin our day is a long list but by its nature, it cannot be a predictable, comprehensive list. Because the Next Big Thing could be

anything or more likely a perfect storm of unrelated things that overlap and cascade into real trouble. That's exactly the point of this book: Instead of focusing on specific threats and ways to counter those threats, it's time to think bigger. It's time to build resilience into our lives, our communities, our businesses, and our governments. I hope that *Beyond the Storms* is read by every policy-maker in the Western World, soon. I highly recommend that you get a copy for yourself and that you send a copy to one of your elected representatives. - Jim M. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A MUST READ FOR PREPAREDNESS PRACTITIONERS

By Joseph L. Captain Egli makes a strong case for the critical importance that resiliency needs to play in our emergency preparedness programs. Far too often, politics, budgets, and a general lack of planning and preparedness knowledge stymies our overall ability to enhance our readiness and capabilities in the era following catastrophic events such as 9-11, Hurricane Katrina, and the DEEPWATER HORIZON/BP oil spill. His Resiliency Framework helps focus efforts and scarce resources in these leaner times in a manner to achieve measureable successes, especially as they apply to critical infrastructure and key resources. Additionally, Captain Egli's book is very readable and tailored to a wide range of professions that find themselves in today's resiliency dynamic. This makes it a critical read for emergency managers and responders, contingency planner, facility engineers and security professionals, and those involved in managing and maintaining the nation's transportation, energy, and medical facility infrastructure. Lastly, as a contingency planner for over 20 years, I cannot understate the importance Captain Egli places on the value of lessons learned and why it is so important to implement an effective improvement plan rather than relearning the same lessons over and over again. This is something that anyone involved in planning, preparedness, and resiliency needs to really take to heart and take positive steps to improve.

This book deals with both actual and potential terrorist attacks on the United States as well as natural disaster preparedness and management in the current era of global climate change. The topics of preparedness, critical infrastructure investments, and risk assessment are covered in detail. The author takes the reader beyond counterterrorism statistics, better first responder equipment, and a fixation on FEMA grant proposals to a holistic analysis and implementation of mitigation, response, and recovery efforts. The recent Oklahoma tornadoes and West Texas storage tank explosion show the unpredictability of disaster patterns, and the Boston Marathon bombings expose the difficulty in predicting and preventing attacks. Egli makes a compelling case for a culture of resilience by asserting a new focus on interagency collaboration, public-private partnerships, and collective action. Building upon the lessons of the 9/11 attacks, hurricane Katrina, and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the basic findings are supported by a creative mix of case studies, which include superstorm Sandy, cascading power outages, GPS and other system vulnerabilities, and Japan's Fukushima disaster with its sobering aftermath. This book will help a new generation of leaders understand the need for smart resilience.

"*Beyond the Storms* is a timely work that inspires a new approach to preparedness and disaster management in the face of increased globalization and complex threats. Egli draws upon practical experience and modern case studies to provide a valuable resource for homeland security planners as well as academic researchers and national security policymakers." --Ryan Crocker, Former Ambassador to Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait, and Lebanon

"Dane Egli understands that homeland security and preparedness require more than strong gates and guards. We, as a nation must, think resiliently. Clearly written, this text demonstrates a systematic approach informed by existing public policy, while reminding us that new approaches are needed to increase the role of private sector stakeholders and significantly improve information sharing at all levels." --General Gene Renuart, USAF (ret.), former Commander, NORAD/USNORTHCOM

"This timely book inspires a new generation of homeland security leaders to improve preparedness through a sharp focus on critical infrastructure resilience. In an era of globalization and increased complexity, Dane Egli offers a systematic analysis of essential themes including risk management, interagency collaboration, public-private partnerships, and collective action--making it an essential resource for planners, students, and policy makers." --Admiral James Loy, USCG (ret.), former USCG Commandant, and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security

"*Beyond the Storms* presents a refreshing analysis of the major themes surrounding preparedness and challenges all of us to think resiliently about the job at hand--providing critical services in the face of crises. This text distills complex ideas and lessons to help understand big picture emergency planning and provides a roadmap to a reliable, survivable and resilient infrastructure system." --William Bryan, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of Energy Infrastructure Security Energy Restoration

"Resilience is the strategic imperative for our turbulent times. As Dane Egli makes clear, it will be the communities and countries that anticipate and prepare to navigate the hazards of the twenty-first century that will thrive. *Beyond the Storms* makes the case for thinking anew, and provides the track lines for acting anew. Only the foolish and reckless will want to venture forth without the insights found within these pages." --Dr. Stephen Flynn, Co-Director, Kostas Research Institute for Homeland Security, Northeastern University

"Local and regional officials face specific challenges every day that often seem detached from broad national-level policies. Dane Egli's unique integration of collective action and interagency coordination helps bridge that gap by offering a resilience framework and a greater focus on mitigation, response, and

recovery." --Jim McDonnell, Chief of Police, City of Long Beach, California"Beyond the Storms integrates research on operational leadership, homeland security and hazard mitigation to provide a text that distills major preparedness themes since 9-11. It will surely be essential reading for anyone interested in the challenges of effective disaster management. Dr. Egli provides a vision that simultaneously advances our understanding of security and resilience, and how they are related, and as such this book will be a key resource in this domain." --Dr. Brian Gerber, University of Colorado-Denver"While Superstorm Sandy reminded us how adaptive people can be in response to a crisis, it also highlighted the significant challenges associated with preparing for and responding to such a catastrophic storm. This book captures vital lessons learned about sustaining our critical economic arteries and infrastructure and mitigating the impact of future disasters." --Rear Admiral Richard Larrabee, U.S. Coast Guard (ret.)"Dane Egli has it right. We all must get ready to move Beyond the Storms. We must become more resilient, and every family, organization, and business in America has a role to play. This timely book is full of the right recommendations, with the logic behind it. Beyond the Storms is a good read for all of us, full of great ideas from Egli's many years of experience serving our nation." --LTG Webster, U.S. Army (ret.)"This consequential book lays the necessary groundwork for improving resilience at all levels of the public and private sector. ... This is a critical reference for all who intend to navigate the hazardous waters of the future." --The CIP Report

About the Author
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