VIGILANT
IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

DIPLOMATIC SECURITY ★ 2010 YEAR IN REVIEW
“Diplomatic Security remains vigilant: focused, unrelenting, and prepared.”

—Assistant Secretary of State Eric J. Boswell

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The Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS), the law enforcement and security arm of the U.S. Department of State, provides a secure environment for the conduct of American diplomacy. To advance American interests and foreign policy, DS protects people, property, and information at more than 285 State Department missions worldwide. DS is the most widely represented U.S. security and law enforcement organization in the world, and a leader in international investigations, threat analysis, cyber security, counterterrorism, and security technology.
“I want to thank Assistant Secretary Boswell for everything that he does every day to keep all of us at the State Department safe and secure while we pursue our jobs. And he leads a bureau full of extraordinarily dedicated professionals, men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our country, our diplomats, our development experts, and American citizens working in every corner of the globe. We are very committed to supporting our Diplomatic Security team because that team supports us.”

— U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

November 17, 2010
In the face of threats

to U.S. diplomatic efforts worldwide, the Bureau of Diplomatic Security remains vigilant: focused, unrelenting, and prepared. Our civil servants provide the foundation; our intelligence analysts give warning; our physical security experts, engineers, and technicians mount countermeasures; our investigators deny criminals and terrorists the mobility of fraudulently obtained passports and visas; our trainers shape our tactics and skills; and our special agents, Marine Security Guards, security protective specialists, uniformed officers, local guard force members, and contract security personnel stand sentinel against the threat.

In 2011, DS enters its tenth consecutive year of sustaining diplomatic efforts in combat zones. And regrettably, what we have learned in war is now finding application in places as unlikely as northern Mexico. The emergency physical security countermeasures we put in place at U.S. Consulate Monterrey at the end of 2010 proved effective earlier in the year at U.S. Consulate General Peshawar. There, on Pakistan’s border 150 miles east of Kabul, Taliban terrorists mounted a sophisticated suicide attack that tragically took Pakistani lives, but failed to penetrate our defenses.

Our newest posts in Iraq require blast-resistant perimeter guard towers. Yet in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sudan, Yemen, and elsewhere, the State Department personnel we protect must not only be present, but also effective. America’s ambassadors and other diplomats must venture out beyond these fortifications to visit their host-nation counterparts. U.S. development personnel must be able to distribute seeds and fertilizer to farmers, oversee the construction of bridges and irrigation projects, and advise local leaders on governance and rule of law. So despite a profound terrorist threat at some diplomatic posts, DS personnel in these countries have assembled flexible security programs that protect American diplomats while allowing them to do their jobs.

With the planned withdrawal of U.S. Armed Forces from Iraq in 2011, DS faces unprecedented challenges. These helped drive the State Department’s first Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review in 2010, a comprehensive study of strengths and weaknesses, missions and resources that will guide State Department policy and funding through the massive security transition in Baghdad and at constituent posts throughout Iraq. The effort will profoundly impact the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, but it leaves the DS mission unchanged. Our task in Baghdad is the same as that at any U.S. embassy in the world: We must, and do, create and maintain a safe environment for the exercise of United States diplomacy.

Eric J. Boswell
Assistant Secretary of State
Director, Office of Foreign Missions
Bureau of Diplomatic Security
JAMAICA: 05•23•10
Deadly mob violence in Kingston prompts an MSD mission to bolster U.S. Embassy security.

ECUADOR: 10•30•10
Demonstrators deface walls, smash windows at U.S. Consulate General Guayaquil.

CÔTE D’IVOIRE: 12•16•10
Civil unrest leads to ordered departure of U.S. Embassy Abidjan nonessential personnel.
SOUTH KOREA: 07・21・10
U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton arrives in Seoul to discuss North Korea.

ISRAEL: 10・10・10
Fugitive double-murder suspect Eric Bellucci arrested in Israel.
Transitioning to a Diplomatic Model in Iraq

The number of rockets and mortars falling throughout Iraq has declined in recent years, but not at U.S. Embassy Baghdad. The Embassy and other U.S. interests in Iraq were targeted 50 times in 2010, nine more attacks than the previous year. On the morning of July 22, an incoming rocket killed three third-country national Embassy guards and injured 15 other contract security personnel working for the Department of State.

Mortars and rockets are not the only dangers in Iraq. Terrorists there made multiple attempts to kill State Department personnel with improvised explosive devices in 2010; but as the security environment in the country improves, these attacks have been less often planned and more impromptu in nature, decreasing their effectiveness.

As the U.S. military prepares to depart Iraq in 2011, the Department of State is deeply engaged in the transition from a largely military presence to a civilian-led diplomatic model. U.S. Embassy Baghdad is expected to grow from a team of 8,000 to a team of approximately 17,000 in 2011.

Nevertheless, DS will sustain the robust security required to enable our government’s foreign policy to move forward.

While DS has a history of providing personal protective and static guard services, the greatest challenge will be replacing capabilities currently unique to the military, such as explosive ordnance disposal and downed-vehicle recovery. DS is also pursuing a
replacement for the military’s counter-rocket-and-mortar notification system. These systems are new to the Department of State, but DS will be ready to assume these responsibilities in support of our government’s expanded diplomatic presence in Iraq by October 1, 2011.

**Supervising Contract Security Specialists**

As many as 5,500 private security contractors will be required to support State Department operations in Iraq. U.S. Embassy Assistant Regional Security Officers have been providing direct oversight of contract security personnel. To augment this force, DS continued to build the ranks of a new category of State Department federal civilian employee in 2010: security protective specialists (SPS). Security protective specialists perform a variety of protective security duties but serve primarily in an oversight role in protective operations manned by contracted security personnel. They are assigned to Afghanistan, Pakistan, and soon, to Iraq.

In 2010, individuals with extensive experience in protective operations abroad were assigned to the RSO staff at U.S. Embassy Kabul and U.S. Consulate Peshawar. They worked with their special agent counterparts in supervising private security contractors during protective movements to various venues in each country. Their outstanding performance validated the program’s concept and created a template for expansion.

These applicants must have extensive experience conducting and supervising protective security operations in critical-threat environments, and DS accepted less than four percent of those applying for the new position in 2010. DS continues to vet applicants to meet the demand in Iraq.

“**In Iraq, the State Department is beginning a transition which is unprecedented for this agency of the United States Government, namely to take over from a massive military presence and footprint and to run the relations with a country that is making progress but still experiencing violence and terrorist attacks on a regular basis. Those of you who have been to or served in Baghdad know that we’ve done everything we can to harden our Embassy in Baghdad, but the rockets keep coming.**”

— U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton • November 17, 2010

A U.S. EMBASSY KABUL ASSISTANT REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER (RIGHT) SUPERVISES PRIVATE SECURITY CONTRACTORS MANNING A PROTECTIVE DETAIL DURING U.S. AMBASSADOR TO AFGHANISTAN KARL EIKENBERRY’S FIRST TRIP TO KANDAHAR UNIVERSITY IN SOUTHERN AFGHANISTAN IN NOVEMBER 2010.
Meeting the Demand for Quality Personnel

As DS grows to meet the evolving security needs of the State Department, the challenge of finding high-caliber personnel also increases. In 2010, DS vetted thousands of candidates to select the most qualified employees to fulfill the DS mission.

DS hired 148 new special agents in 2010. DS also brought in 33 new security engineering officers, nine diplomatic couriers, and seven security technical specialists.

To ensure a secure workforce, DS vetted the backgrounds of 36,600 employees, candidates, and contractors in 2010. This was a 20 percent increase over the previous year.

Expanding Safely Overseas

Many of the nearly 300 State Department facilities overseas were built before truck bombs and suicidal terror attacks became a pervasive threat. The Department’s Long-Range Overseas Buildings Plan includes a Capital Security Construction Program to replace the 80 most vulnerable U.S. posts in the world. The “Top 80” list is updated every year as DS studies embassy and consulate buildings for concerns such as perimeter security, setback distance, and threat level. Five to eight new construction projects are initiated each year, with a current focus on facilities in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

DS certifies construction security plans for facilities underway. In 2010, 143 construction security plans cleared the certification/confirmation process, representing a 26 percent increase over 2009.

Several projects emerge from the construction pipeline each year, and DS inspects each facility from a security perspective. DS follows an accreditation process to assure that security practices were maintained during construction and that nothing compromised the integrity of the controlled-access areas within the facility where classified information will be stored and discussed.
DS INSPECTED AND ACCREDITED SEVERAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS COMPLETED OVERSEAS IN 2010, INCLUDING U.S. DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES IN (A) ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR; (B) ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA; (C) BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, BRUNEI; (D) SARAJEVO, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA; (E) KHARTOUM, SUDAN; AND (F) LUZAKA, ZAMBIA.

In 2010, DS inspected and accredited seven new U.S. diplomatic facilities overseas:

- Khartoum, Sudan: new Embassy compound
- Antananarivo, Madagascar: new Embassy compound
- Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina: new Embassy compound
- Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: new Embassy compound
- Karachi, Pakistan: new Embassy compound
- Lusaka, Zambia: new Embassy compound
- Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei: standard secure mini-compound

Domestically, DS also is responsible for inspecting and accrediting facilities which contain classified areas. Major projects completed in 2010 include:

- U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York City
- DS Field Office in Miami, Florida
- DS Resident Office in Buffalo, New York
- State Department Annex Nine in Washington, D.C.
- Arkansas Passport Center Annex in Hot Springs, Arkansas
- Buffalo Passport Agency in Buffalo, New York
- National Foreign Affairs Training Center expansion project in Arlington, Virginia
After large vehicle-borne explosives destroyed U.S. Embassies in East Africa in 1998, DS instituted a new worldwide security template for U.S. missions overseas. It strengthened the first-line defenses of diplomatic compounds and distanced buildings from these perimeters. Events in 2010 demonstrate that terrorists have adapted to our new defenses. On April 5, six members of the Pakistani Taliban attacked U.S. Consulate General Peshawar in Pakistan with guns, hand grenades, rocket-propelled grenades, suicide vests, and three car bombs. Their plan: a multi-stage mission in which explosives breach the perimeter and combatants flood into the compound for an armed assault.

When the smoke cleared after the Peshawar attack, a crater seven feet long yawned at the Consulate gate. The area was strewn with twisted metal, rocket-propelled grenade shells, and unexploded hand grenades. Four Pakistani officers lay dead, and members of the Consulates’ local guard force were seriously injured. But the Taliban failed to breach the perimeter.

Aware of the threat to Consulate General Peshawar, DS earlier had deployed security specialists to implement suitable countermeasures. These included two checkpoints on a public road outside the compound’s primary entrance. Using steel-plated shipping containers, DS engineers improvised vehicle containment areas with anti-ram barriers, sliding gates, and pedestrian screening controls. When the attack came, these distant control points kept the blast from doing more than superficial damage to the consulate and prevented terrorists from entering the compound.
Our defense of Consulate Peshawar was successful only because of the work of generations of regional security officers, security engineering officers, security technical specialists, and headquarters experts. Together, they developed an integrated package of field-expedient security measures that prevented a perimeter breach until host country forces could arrive and neutralize the threat.

—Diplomatic Security Service Director Jeffrey Culver

The effort to upgrade our defenses extends beyond Peshawar and beyond physical security measures. In 2010, DS established nearly 70 new staff positions at the largest and most complex critical-threat posts worldwide to allow Regional Security Officers to strengthen their local guard, residential security, and surveillance-detection programs.

To prepare our personnel for service in Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Yemen, DS put 217 special agents through its High-Threat Tactical Training course in 2010, twice the number trained the previous year. This five-week course covers tactical medical techniques, advanced firearms and room-clearing measures, mission planning, low profile operations, air operations, tactical communications, land navigation, advanced protective security formations, armored vehicle dynamics, off-road driving, and hostage survival.

These are the skills it takes to remain vigilant on the front lines of the war against terrorism.

DS Special Agents Receiving High-Threat Tactical Training
In the spring of 2010, in Thailand, supporters of the ousted prime minister waged battles with Thai police and military troops in the streets of Bangkok, leaving 85 dead and more than 1,000 injured. At the same time, in Kyrgyzstan, a violent uprising left more than 80 dead, swept the Kyrgyz president from power, and ushered in a wave of ethnic violence that killed hundreds and displaced hundreds of thousands. Civil unrest also plagued Jamaica, Côte d’Ivoire, Chad, Mali, and other nations throughout the year.

The safety of U.S. diplomatic personnel abroad is in the hands of the more than 700 Diplomatic Security special agents assigned to U.S. foreign missions. When the security situation in a country deteriorates, DS Regional Security Officers work with U.S. Marine Security Guards, Engineering Services Offices, embassy Emergency Action Committees, and DS headquarters in a bureau-wide effort to secure U.S. facilities and personnel. They conduct threat assessments, set up physical security countermeasures, evacuate nonessential personnel, and establish security procedures for ongoing vigilance throughout evolving crises.

In 2010, the number of posts where employees and family members went from “authorized” to “ordered” to depart, due to life-threatening conditions, was 11—nearly four times the number in 2009, when only three departures were authorized/voluntary.

Six of these posts were on our own border. In March, the tragedy of narco-violence in Mexico reached into the diplomatic community with the murder of a pregnant...
Our mission in Mexico is critically important. Rising narco-violence poses a profound threat to thousands of U.S. Government employees, family members, and private citizens along that country’s northern border. I was deeply impressed by the creativity, commitment, and courage exhibited daily by our staff as they provide the security required to sustain diplomatic and consular operations in an increasingly chaotic environment.

— Diplomatic Security Service Director Jeffrey Culver
Vigilance includes being ready for anything, and in 2010, DS assisted U.S. disaster-relief efforts all over the world, including the response to massive flooding in Pakistan and Peru and devastating earthquakes in Chile, China, and Indonesia.

Closer to home, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck near Haiti’s capital city of Port-au-Prince on January 12, killing 230,000 people, injuring 300,000, and leaving one million homeless.

After the quake, U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince was structurally sound, but it only remained operational due to the tireless efforts of Diplomatic Security personnel. One of the largest disaster-response efforts in history would have been hobbled from the outset if DS personnel had not created a safe environment for State Department operations.

As thousands of desperate Haitians and Americans surrounded the U.S. Embassy looking for help, the DS team on the ground—the Regional Security Office, Marine Security Detachment, and local guard force—secured the perimeter and retrieved injured Mission personnel from around the city. One agent frantically searched through rubble at the home of Embassy Cultural Affairs Officer Victoria DeLong, who did not survive the earthquake.

In Washington, D.C., DS organized a flood of personnel, equipment, and funding to sustain the U.S. Embassy so it could help victims. DS Mobile Security Deployments quick-response teams flew in to bolster perimeter security. When U.S. Marine Corps Fleet Antiterrorism...
“My proudest recollection of our performance this year is rooted in crisis, when our flash request for volunteers to provide support to Embassy Port-au-Prince, Haiti, was answered with nearly 100 e-mails within 24 hours. Our agents, couriers, engineering staff, protective specialists, civil servants, special investigators, and contractors have matched that can-do spirit in virtually every task we’ve faced since then.”

— Diplomatic Security Service Director Jeffrey Culver

Security Team (FAST) Marines arrived to relieve them, MSD escorted search-and-rescue teams, conducted medical evacuations, and transported more than $1 million in currency from Port-Au-Prince banks to a secure facility. An MSD tactical emergency medic assisted with amputations in a makeshift operating room at the U.S. Embassy Chancery.

A second team of volunteer DS special agents flew to Haiti to organize the safe evacuation of 16,000 American citizens, the largest peacetime evacuation of Americans in modern history. They provided security for a visit from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. In addition, they ran daily convoys of food, water, fuel, supplies, and aid workers 192 miles over rough mountain roads from nearby Embassy Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. They also located missing Americans, or their remains, for loved ones back home.

A DS expert visited 115 staff residences throughout Port-au-Prince to assess damage to walls, doors, gates, windows, and locks. DS repaired this equipment, hired 25 additional armed guards, and procured nine new local guard force vehicles to keep Embassy personnel safe.

Throughout the crisis, the Diplomatic Security Command Center coordinated communications among DS personnel in Port-au-Prince and offices in the Washington, D.C., area as the bureau came together to meet Haiti’s security and infrastructure needs.
Secretary of State Protective Detail

When the fifth-largest earthquake in recorded history hit Chile on February 27, 2010, an advance team of five DS special agents was in Santiago preparing for a visit by U.S. Secretary of State Clinton. They were assessing travel routes and performing security sweeps of diplomatic venues when the quake called into question the integrity of bridges, tunnels, and buildings throughout the area, making travel anywhere almost impossible.

Due to ingenious coordination between staff and the protective detail, the planned visit went forward anyway. When the Secretary’s plane arrived, the advance team had cleared the way for her to conduct all of her business on the tarmac, including meetings with Chile’s outgoing President Michelle Bachelet and incoming President Sebastián Piñera. Creating the safest place for diplomacy, even in the midst of a natural disaster, exemplifies the can-do spirit of the DS mission.

The Secretary of State’s Protective Detail and DS security technology experts kept her safe in Chile and 54 other countries in 2010, including extensive trips to the Near East, South Central Asia, and the Far East. In 14 countries, DS vetted intelligence information and analyzed key locations for security and surveillance concerns. In Haiti, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, the DS Office of Mobile Security Deployments provided additional high-threat protection for the Secretary.

Secretary Clinton surpassed all of her predecessors for miles logged during a single calendar year. The Secretary traveled 220,000 miles in 2010, equivalent to circling the globe nearly nine times, and DS was at her side for every mile.
It’s a much more difficult security environment. The threat matrix is much more complex. The world has changed at a dizzying pace.

— U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton • November 17, 2010

Dignitary Protection


Domestically, DS provided 178 protection details in 259 American cities for foreign dignitaries including:

- U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon
- Israeli Minister of Defense Ehud Barak
- Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki
- Palestinian Authority President Mahmud Abbas
- His Holiness the Dalai Lama of Tibet
- Princes Harry and Andrew of the United Kingdom
- Former British Prime Ministers Tony Blair and Gordon Brown

DS dignitary protection was required at:

- the U.N. Haiti Donor’s Conference in New York City in March
- the U.N. Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, D.C., in April
- the U.N. Nuclear Non-Proliferation Threat Review Conference in New York City in May
- the Middle East Peace Summit in Washington, D.C., in September
- the U.N. General Assembly in New York City in October

In partnership with the U.S. Secret Service, DS dedicated intelligence and countersurveillance teams to some of these events to respond to potential threats and investigate suspicious activity. In 2010, DS investigated more than 350 threats against DS-protected personnel and facilities.

Domestic Facilities Protection


While the facility is owned by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), the State Department paid more than 12 percent of the construction cost to provide DS upgrades to the standard GSA design. These include special security features such as bollards, reinforced concrete, and blast-resistance capability.

The new USUN represents decades of development in the areas of physical and technical security and thousands of hours of dedicated effort on the part of DS personnel.

USUN is one of 124 Department of State facilities located across the United States. Protected by nearly 850 DS Uniformed Protective Division officers, these facilities hosted 1,800 events in 2010. Notable attendees included heads of state from Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and Mexico.
brought over 2 million fans to the various venues. Participants from the United States included the U.S. Soccer Team, official delegations, media, corporate sponsors, and tens of thousands of American fans. Ever-vigilant, DS was prepared for crime, domestic extremism, and international terrorism.

DS led U.S. inter-agency security efforts with a “whole of government” approach, in line with post-9/11 major events planning. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency all played crucial roles in their respective areas of expertise. DS established a U.S. Government Joint Operations Center at the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria to coordinate the flow of security and threat information among this inter-agency team.

With game venues all over South Africa, DS also relied on the local expertise of Regional Security Officers at U.S. Embassies in Pretoria and U.S. Consulates in Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban. DS monitored and disseminated threat reporting, security incidents, and
I’d like to salute the efforts of the 38 agents and analysts who deployed to South Africa to support security for the U.S. World Cup soccer team, 90,000 American visitors, and the numerous VIPs who attended the world’s largest sporting event. Special credit is due the DS personnel who arrived on-scene just a few weeks in advance and crafted a solid security plan amid the tumult of tournament preparations.”

— Assistant Secretary of State Eric J. Boswell

provided daily situation reports. Through the Antiterrorism Assistance Program, DS worked for months training South African crisis-response elements prior to the 2010 World Cup. The Overseas Security Advisory Council facilitated the information flow to and from the U.S. private sector, including corporate sponsors.

DS agents embedded with the U.S. Soccer Team to provide protective intelligence and countersurveillance support. DS also worked closely with the South African Police Services Special Task Force and South African National Intelligence, establishing a successful precedent for future joint investigations.

In addition, DS led the 150-member U.S. Government inter-agency security program for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics and Paralympics in February and March. DS special agents manned competition venues, athletic villages, the Joint Operations Center, and the Olympic Coordination Center. In November, DS signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Olympic Committee formalizing Diplomatic Security’s protection responsibilities for Team USA during major international events.

DS also protected U.S. personnel participating in numerous other events in 2010, including:

• the East Asia summit in Hanoi, Vietnam, in October
• the NATO summit in Lisbon, Portugal, in November
• the Nuclear Security summit in Washington, D.C., in April
• the G-20 summit in Seoul, Korea, in November
The secure passage of confidential information between the United States Government and its embassies abroad is essential to diplomacy. Whatever the time of day, somewhere on the globe a DS diplomatic courier is escorting classified diplomatic pouches by air, sea, or land. The team of 103 diplomatic couriers is supported by program personnel at DS headquarters, four regional courier divisions, six courier hubs, and ten field sites spread across six continents.

DS couriers spent 77,023 hours on the road in 2010 ensuring the secure transport of more than 9.7 million pounds of classified diplomatic pouch materials. They escorted relief supplies to disaster zones, equipment to support security operations at the World Cup in South Africa and the Olympics in Canada, and tons of construction materials destined for secure spaces in new embassies and consulates.

Diplomatic couriers achieved a breakthrough in 2010 with the resumption of classified pouch service to Pakistan. Bilateral differences over procedures and protocols suspended courier visits for much of the year, but the courier office in Bangkok successfully negotiated agreements with the Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs on visas, tarmac access, and pouch-screening issues.

In October 2010, the director of the Bangkok Regional Diplomatic Courier Division obtained Pakistani visas for couriers, and Benazir Bhutto International Airport in Islamabad extended full cooperation for Embassy personnel to conduct planeside pouch exchanges. In early December, DS completed the first courier mission.
I take special pride in the ‘unsung heroes’ known as diplomatic couriers, who labor quietly, skillfully, and brilliantly, 24/7, in support of our nation’s foreign policy. Twenty-five years ago, the Diplomatic Courier Service was transferred to our newly created bureau, and it has been a very special and respected part of our agency ever since. Every year, our diplomatic couriers move millions of pounds of classified materials by air, sea, and land.

—Assistant Secretary of State Eric J. Boswell

A plane arrives at Bahrain International Airport from Khartoum, Sudan, with a shipment of U.S. classified diplomatic pouches. Offloading is supervised by a team from the Manama Regional Diplomatic Courier Hub.

to Karachi in nine months. A few weeks later, couriers conducted the first classified pouch airport exchange in Lahore in more than two years.

Couriers also achieved a breakthrough in Afghanistan. Previously, DS couriers serviced Kabul twice a month using charter flights from Manama, Bahrain, at a cost of $40,000–60,000 per mission. In 2010, DS sought out unused space on scheduled U.S. Government flights to Kabul departing Frankfurt, Germany. As a result, the Diplomatic Courier Service ran 17 such missions to Kabul, delivering more than 220,000 pounds of vital material to the war zone at little or no cost.
Capturing Fugitives
and Protecting Children

As U.S. federal law enforcement officers posted overseas at U.S. embassies and consulates, Diplomatic Security Service special agents partner with host-nation authorities to pursue, locate, and return fugitives from every corner of the globe. In 2010, DS coordinated the return of 187 international fugitives and eight domestic fugitives.

Ten of these cases involved homicide, 21 involved serious narcotics charges, and 20 involved sexual crimes committed against minors. Other charges ranged from probation violation, child pornography, desertion, parental child abduction, money laundering, burglary, and violent sexual assault. DS fugitive returns in 2010 included rare law enforcement cooperation from Cuba, Venezuela, Iraq, and Honduras.

In one case, a fugitive was hiding out in the jungles of South America. He faced seven criminal charges in Clark County, Washington, including the rape of a child, child molestation, and incest. The U.S. Marshals Service requested assistance from the long arm of Diplomatic Security in locating and capturing the fugitive.

A DS agent at U.S. Embassy Lima, Peru, worked with a team to uncover the fugitive’s trail, finding evidence that he had crossed from Bolivia into Peru. They believed he had moved into Peru’s northern jungles; and when he left his jungle hideout to fly to Peru’s capital on July 30, the
In bringing a record number of U.S. fugitives home to face justice, our people demonstrated the flexibility and creativity that are recognized as the hallmarks of DS worldwide.

—Assistant Secretary of State Eric J. Boswell

Team was ready. The unsuspecting man was waiting for his luggage in the airport baggage claim area when the DS agent called his name. The fugitive turned and faced Peruvian law enforcement officers who took him into custody.

While DS was pursuing fugitives overseas for crimes committed in the United States, other Americans were committing crimes in foreign lands. DS referred 52 cases of American citizens arrested overseas for child sex crimes to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Child Exploitation Unit of the Department of Homeland Security. Through joint efforts of a DS agent assigned to the Consular Affairs Office of Children’s Issues and the National Sex Offender Targeting Center, DS also assisted in the location and return of 15 children who were abducted by a parent without custodial rights.

DS assisted more than 200 foreign, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies with international investigations in 2010, including the U.S. Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security’s Immigration & Customs Enforcement, Drug Enforcement Administration, Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and multiple branches of the U.S. military.
On May 21, DS issued an alert featuring three images of a bright-eyed inspector for the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, aged 37. His name was Jason Evers—or so said his birth certificate, Social Security card, Oregon driver's license, voter registration card, and passport.

But the real Jason Evers was kidnapped and murdered in 1982 at the age of three. In 1996, the mystery man read about the case in a newspaper and obtained a copy of the boy's birth certificate. In April 2010, DS investigators arrested him in Idaho after using the highly successful “Death Match” procedure: cross-referencing U.S. passport applications with death certificates.

The case drew national attention. Americans empathized as the distraught family of the real Jason Evers learned a stranger had adopted the name of their murdered son and brother.

The mystery man told DS agents they would never learn his true identity, and for months he remained a John Doe. “He was the toughest defendant I have encountered in 25 years,” said DS Special Agent Pat Durkin, who heads the San Francisco Field Office. “Fortunately, good police work made sure he was wrong, and we were able to unravel his story.”

John Doe is Doitchin Krastev, a Bulgarian citizen who came to the United States as a student and assumed the identity of Jason Evers to remain in the country after dropping out of college.

In November, Krastev pleaded guilty to passport fraud and aggravated identity theft. Later at sentencing, a U.S.
The devastation suffered by the Evers family when they lost their baby boy to a murderer in 1982 was compounded when they learned around the time of the murderer’s parole hearing this year that a stranger had been living his life here in Oregon under their boy’s stolen identity. Identity theft is a serious crime that has real victims, and real consequences.

— U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon Dwight C. Holton

District Court judge in Portland, Oregon, ordered Krastev to spend two years and one day in prison. At that time, Krastev apologized to the family of the real Jason Evers.

The San Francisco Field Office began Operation Death Match in 2005. Since then, it has generated more than 100 convictions for false identity.

Visa and Passport Fraud

Foreigners who hold fraudulent U.S. visas and criminals who use fraudulently obtained U.S. passports hold the proverbial keys to the kingdom. Fraudulent U.S. visas are often obtained at a steep price and permit ineligible aliens to live, study, and work in the United States largely undetected. Fraudulently obtained U.S. passports allow the bearers to travel around the world perpetuating their criminal enterprises under the guise of reputable American citizens.

For example, in the city of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates—a gateway between the Middle East and the rest of the world—Americans and citizens of 37 other countries do not need a visitor’s visa. Citizens of nations not on this privileged list—including Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, and Sudan—must provide information about their plans, finances, and local contacts in writing several days before arriving. To avoid too many complications, it is far better to arrive in Dubai as an American and to come and go relatively easily.

Individuals and criminal rings are hard at work fraudulently obtaining U.S. passports and visas. They defraud the issuing system by providing false documents and information to obtain real U.S. passports and visas. DS pursues passport and visa crimes at home and abroad to deny criminals and terrorists the mobility and privileges false travel documents provide.

Criminal enterprises as complex as drug trafficking and terrorism are often built upon illegally obtained passports and visas, and proving travel document fraud can bring the whole operation tumbling down. For this reason, law enforcement task forces and inter-agency initiatives seek out DS special agents for their expertise with this very specific set of criminal statutes.

Almost every significant DS investigation also is supported in some way by the Computer Forensic Laboratory through digital forensic analysis, cyber investigations, or technical surveillance equipment. In 2010, the lab processed more than 1,500 pieces of evidence and closed 66 cases.
Efforts Within U.S. Borders

DS special agents investigate passport and visa fraud at 28 offices throughout the United States. In 2010, DS opened 5,801 domestic cases. Of these, 4,706 involved visa or passport fraud, and 1,095 were pursued with other agencies or involved other crimes. DS closed 6,080 domestic cases in 2010, which included cases opened in previous years. Of 1,630 DS domestic arrests in 2010, 1,045 were for visa or passport fraud.

In June 2010, the DS San Diego Resident Office led a border-enforcement effort called Operation Goalkeeper. At U.S./Mexico border crossings, personnel from DS, Customs and Border Protection, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office formed passport security teams. In one week, they stopped 47 individuals with counterfeit or altered passports or visas, and 60 individuals using passports issued to others. These arrests disrupted a number of criminal fraud rings. In terms of size, scope, and duration, this was the largest joint-enforcement effort DS has conducted along the California-Mexico border.

The Chicago Field Office also conducted the largest criminal investigation in its history in 2010. Operation Centurion brought together multiple Diplomatic Security Field Offices, federal and local law enforcement partners, and colleagues from the Chicago Passport Agency to conduct joint passport fraud investigations. Combining their assets in a ten-day push, Operation Centurion investigated 91 cases, closed 55 cases, and made 12 arrests. The team seized four hand guns, one assault rifle, and netted $129,827 in asset forfeiture.

The Document and Benefit Fraud Task Force is a DS partnership with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Labor. In 2010, this
A task force opened 306 investigations, closed 234, and participated in 130 arrests. One investigation pursued an international fraud scheme that allowed Brazilian workers to remain in the United States indefinitely on a series of fraudulently obtained short-term work visas. The case resulted in dozens of arrests in the United States and Brazil. In October 2010, the ringleaders were convicted of conspiracy, visa fraud, and alien smuggling. They were ordered to forfeit a record-setting $55 million in assets.

Preventing Fraud Overseas

DS special agents at U.S. embassies and consulates abroad work closely with State Department Consular Affairs officers to thwart those who would illegally obtain visas to enter the United States. In 2010, cases worked by Assistant Regional Security Officer Investigators resulted in the arrests of 635 visa and passport fraud-related suspects by our foreign law enforcement partners. These investigations also led to the refusal or revocation of 2,480 visas and the denial of 272 passports or Consular Reports of Birth Abroad.

Operation Coffee Country at U.S. Embassy Bogota, Colombia, targeted a group of alien smugglers who provided false documentation to hundreds of unqualified U.S. visa applicants. This four-year investigation gathered enough evidence to meet extradition requirements for the three Colombian conspirators to face justice in the United States. In 2010, each defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 23 months in prison to be followed by deportation to Colombia. More than $250,000 in assets was seized.

DS also investigates State Department personnel tempted to abuse their positions for profit by the high demand for U.S. travel documents. In November, a career consular officer with more than 20 years of service pleaded guilty to providing false statements to federal agents. This consular officer issued U.S. visas to unqualified candidates at two overseas posts and also lied to Department investigators during prior investigations of his consular activities.

Assuring Crime Does Not Pay

The DS Asset Forfeiture Program team assisted with the financial aspects of more than 200 criminal investigations in 2010. These investigations made possible $1.7 million in deposits to the Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Fund. In addition, $56.7 million in financial judgments was awarded during the year pursuant to DS-led and joint investigations. The program also provided five asset forfeiture and financial investigation training seminars to 205 DS special agents and analysts.

Weeding Out Spies

In 2010, DS saw the conclusion of a four-year effort to identify and bring to justice a traitor operating within the U.S. Department of State.

After years of decoding and analyzing secret transmissions from Cuba, the FBI determined that a State Department employee might be spying for the communist nation located 90 miles off the U.S. coast. Using information revealed in the transmissions, DS narrowed the possible suspects to 20 State Department employees. More intense scrutiny of travel patterns and witness interviews allowed DS to narrow the field to one: Walter Kendall Myers, a high-ranking analyst in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research and a 30-year veteran of the State Department. An undercover FBI agent gained Myers’ trust by posing as a Cuban intelligence officer, and the resulting investigation led to Myers’ arrest and guilty plea. On July 16, Myers was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Myers’ wife Gwendolyn, an accomplice, was sentenced to a total of 81 months in prison.
Having the Inside Track

In Afghanistan, Iraq, and other areas where the risk of kidnapping is high, DS watch officers and Personnel Recovery teams distribute and monitor DS-designed electronic satellite-based tracker technology to tag, track, and locate the movement of individuals, vehicles, and aircraft. A 911 distress signal enables deployment of a quick-reaction response as necessary, saving lives in hostile environments. Rapidly developing technology is at the heart of this effort.

The DS track, tag, and locate system is derived from, and compatible with, the DOD’s program. It not only meets the DS need for situational awareness but also provides a common operating picture between the military and the State Department. The success of the program was reinforced when the State Department provided support to the U.S. military during recovery operations following the Haiti earthquake.

In certain critical-threat countries, signals are monitored at embassy Tactical Operations Centers where information is integrated, potential threats to protective movements are assessed, and all missions are coordinated.

These centers are made possible by a partnership between DS and the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center—Atlantic. In addition to track, tag, and locate systems, the centers operate a Tactical Radio Program: long-range, secure-capable communications for DS assets that can also reach out to the U.S. military, coalition partners, and host-country security forces.
DS recognizes the growing use of geospatially formatted information among various offices and has tasked its experts to build multiple data overlays. Incidents, threats, photos, and reports will be plotted into a three-dimensional geospatial environment to rapidly provide a cohesive picture to decision makers.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

In 2010, DS coordinated with the U.S. Department of Defense and other government agencies to research using Tier 1 (low altitude, long endurance) unmanned aerial vehicles in high-threat locations such as Iraq and Afghanistan. This effort led to a successful test in Iraq in December. DS plans to deploy unmanned aerial vehicles to support U.S. Embassy Baghdad in 2011. The program will watch over State Department facilities and personnel and assist Regional Security Officers with high-threat mission planning and execution.

Secure Communications

In 2010, the U.S. Government merged the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council into one entity called the National Security Staff. DS worked with this team to expand secure voice and video communications between the president, key cabinet members, and specified U.S. ambassadors overseas.

DS also established ProjNet-C, a secure electronic transmission path between the State Department and contractors supporting overseas construction projects. The blueprints for sensitive aspects of embassy construction and infrastructure are classified. Previously, they had to be delivered to job sites by a diplomatic courier, creating lag time at overseas projects where delays can cost tens of thousands of dollars per day. Now, updates to these classified blueprints can be transmitted in an instant and discussed by all parties securely.

"DS remains at the cutting edge of physical, cyber, and technical security."
—Assistant Secretary of State Eric J. Boswell
The DS Command Center

The DS Command Center is a state-of-the-art facility that tracks and reports threats, security incidents, and international events affecting U.S. diplomatic missions around the world 24 hours a day.

DS continued to expand the Command Center’s Security Management System enterprise network in 2010, a worldwide monitoring system unique to DS. Through it, DS Command Center personnel can monitor nearly 3,000 devices at distant U.S. diplomatic facilities in real time. These devices include security video cameras, digital video recorders, intrusion-detection systems, automated access control systems, and environmental sensors. By year’s end, DS had 265 Department of State posts on the network: 110 posts with full operability, and the remaining 155 posts with the video component enabled. DS Engineering Services Centers around the world and individual embassies can also monitor their constituent posts using the system.

DS also increased to 100 the number of posts using the Visual Security Operations Console, offering DS personnel a photo-realistic depiction of an overseas mission compound that provides ability to drill down and see floor layouts and other security information, such as camera locations. In 2010, DS doubled the number of console models completed. There are 150 now in place, with 115 left to complete.

Physical Security Programs

In 2010, DS sponsored successful crash testing of the 50 mile-per-hour anti-climb, anti-ram picket fence. DS is involved in many such anti-ram innovations that combine high performance with pleasing aesthetics.

DS personnel are also investigating anti-blast solutions for critical-threat environments. The DS Research and Development program conducted steel-stud building blast testing to gauge blast damage more effectively, and the steel-stud buildings exceeded expectations.

For soft-skinned expeditionary structures such as trailers, temporary modular protective structures can provide protection. In 2010, DS developed and blast-tested these structures in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A prototype successfully protected a trailer housed inside from two blasts.
TOP: DS RESEARCH ENGINEERS SUBJECTED A STEEL-STUD BUILDING DESIGN TO A VALIDATION BLAST TEST USING THREE SUCCESSIVE EXPLOSIONS AT THE NEW MEXICO TECH ENERGETIC MATERIALS RESEARCH AND TESTING CENTER IN SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO. THE WHITE OUTER LAYER OF THE BUILDING IS AN ARCHITECTURAL FINISH FOR APPEARANCES ONLY.

BOTTOM: AFTER THREE BLASTS, THE COSMETIC SHELL HAS BLOWN AWAY, BUT THE STEEL-STUD BUILDING BENEATH REMAINS STRUCTURALLY INTACT. IT WOULD HAVE PROTECTED THOSE LIVING OR WORKING INSIDE THROUGHOUT ALL THREE EXPLOSIONS.
On March 9, 2010, Indonesian anti-terror policemen trained and equipped by the DS Antiterrorism Assistance program carry their weapons after a raid near Jakarta. The raid resulted in the death of Dulmatin, mastermind of Indonesia’s worst terror attack, the 2002 Bali nightclub bombing that killed 202 victims.

Anti-Terrorism Assistance

The DS Antiterrorism Assistance program provided 406 training activities to more than 7,036 participants from 64 countries in 2010. The training included:

- airport security
- bomb detection and disposal
- cyber terrorism and security
- dignitary protection
- fraudulent travel-document recognition
- hostage negotiation and rescue

Since its inception in 1983, the ATA program has delivered counterterrorism training to approximately 74,036 students from 159 partner countries.

In March, Indonesia’s elite anti-terrorism unit, Detachment 88, participated in a raid that resulted in the shooting death of Dulmatin, one of Indonesia’s most-wanted terrorists. Dulmatin was a senior leader of the Southeast Asian terrorist network Jamiyah Islamiyah. He is believed to have masterminded the 2002 Bali nightclub bombing that killed 202 victims. Detachment 88 was trained and equipped by the DS Antiterrorism Assistance program.
Because crime knows no borders, collaboration between law enforcement agencies around the world is crucial to protecting U.S. interests. The Bureau of Diplomatic Security is honored by the selection of a DS special agent to lead the International Law Enforcement Academy in El Salvador. This appointment will only strengthen the Bureau’s partnership with international law-enforcement colleagues in Central and South America to combat international drug trafficking, criminality, and terrorism.”

—Assistant Secretary of State Eric J. Boswell

Rewards for Justice

Through the Rewards for Justice program, the Secretary of State offers rewards of up to $25 million for information about acts of international terrorism against U.S. persons or property. Since its inception in 1984, RFJ has paid in excess of $100 million to more than 60 individuals who provided credible information.

In 2010, RFJ added six individuals to its Wanted for Terrorism list. Among the rewards announced was up to $5 million for information leading to the location of Hakimullah Mehsud, the self-proclaimed emir of the Pakistani Taliban, or Wali Ur Rehman, the group’s second-in-command and chief military strategist. Both men are wanted in connection with a December 2009 suicide attack that killed seven American citizens at Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost, Afghanistan.

In addition, the International Broadcasting Board began broadcasting Public Service Announcements about several of RFJ’s Most Wanted suspects in 2010. The announcements were translated into various languages for worldwide broadcast on Voice of America partner stations.

International Law Enforcement Academy

In 2010, DS achieved a milestone with the selection of a DS special agent as the director of the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in San Salvador, El Salvador. DS personnel teach courses at ILEA academies, but the appointment to head the San Salvador academy was a first for a DS agent.

ILEA academies in El Salvador, Botswana, Hungary, and Thailand target transnational crime and terrorism through enhanced international cooperation. In El Salvador, the ILEA Director ensures high-quality training to help the region’s law enforcement community fight human trafficking, drug trafficking, gangs, terrorism, and financial crimes such as money laundering.

DS achieved a milestone in 2010 when the International Law Enforcement Academy selected DS Special Agent Michael Perkins as the new Director of the El Salvador Academy. Here, Perkins (right) tours a new ILEA facility in San Salvador with officials from ILEA (left) and the U.S. Department of State (center) on Feb. 8, 2011.
The Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) is a public-private partnership between DS and 7,000 representatives from U.S.-based businesses, academic institutions, faith-based institutions, and nongovernmental organizations. In 2010, OSAC conducted more than 3,000 consultations to help these entities operate more safely in challenging security environments overseas.

American businesses and institutions overseas join with U.S. embassy Regional Security Offices to form OSAC Country Councils. Numbering more than 140 worldwide, these councils share information on regional threats ranging from terrorist attacks to intellectual property theft.

OSAC’s Annual Briefing at the Harry S Truman Building in Washington, D.C., in November, brought together 1,100 security professionals to address the concerns of the U.S. private sector operating overseas.
Speakers included Secretary of State Clinton, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs William J. Burns, Special Representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke, and broadcaster Tom Brokaw.

Other OSAC events in 2010 included the Latin America Security Conference in Miami, which focused on kidnap and response trends, corruption, organized crime, and supply-chain security. Regional Security Officers from Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico, and Venezuela presented country-specific security briefings. In Doha, Qatar, OSAC’s Hotel Security Working Group facilitated hotel-industry training on regional threats, blast-mitigation techniques, surveillance detection, and security screening.

The Office of Foreign Missions

The DS Office of Foreign Missions enhances the safety and security of U.S. diplomats abroad by ensuring that foreign mission members in the United States receive reciprocal privileges and protections that U.S. diplomats are afforded in corresponding foreign countries. OFM also helps protect the U.S. public and national security through measures to regulate the activities of foreign diplomats and officials residing in the United States.

As the leader of the Department of State’s Diplomatic Tax-Relief Initiative, OFM established or assisted in implementing bilateral arrangements for the relief of foreign taxes imposed on the construction of 12 U.S. Department of State facilities overseas for which contracts were awarded in 2010. These bilateral arrangements resulted in a total projected savings to the American taxpayer of approximately $79.8 million in foreign taxes.

In 2010, OFM worked to clarify, define, and build relationships between the foreign mission community and federal, state, and local government emergency management/response agencies to assist with communications in the event of a major domestic emergency.
On July 22, 2010, incoming rocket fire killed three U.S. Embassy Baghdad Security Force personnel and wounded 15 others in Baghdad, Iraq. The three fallen guards, two from Uganda and one from Peru, were among thousands of men and women around the world who put themselves in harm’s way in 2010 to protect American diplomats and development experts.

As their deaths tragically remind us, Diplomatic Security is dangerous work, but without professionals to safeguard controlled-access areas, compounds for working and living, motorcades and other official movements, U.S. diplomacy would be impossible. We are grateful to all who serve.

At overseas posts, DS personnel do not hold the line alone. Host nation law enforcement stands shoulder to shoulder with our people at the gates of U.S. embassies and consulates. In April, a Pakistani Frontier Constabulary officer, a Pakistani police officer, and two members of the Pakistani military gave their lives defending U.S. Consulate General Peshawar during a Pakistani Taliban suicide attack. The terrorists were intent on entering the compound and slaughtering Americans, but they never breached the outer perimeter where these Pakistanis held their posts.

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security mourns the seven colleagues and friends we lost in Iraq and Pakistan in 2010.

In their memory, we remain vigilant.