

and a “fast lane” for selected trucks at the border. Unknown or higher risk traffic is given a more thorough check. Related endeavours on the movement of goods include in-transit container targeting at seaports, the stationing of customs agents in each other’s countries, reverse customs inspections with goods being inspected before they enter a country rather than after and inspection occurring away from the borders in designated areas. Representatives from Canada Customs are currently stationed in Seattle-Tacoma and Newark while U.S. customs officials are stationed in Halifax, Montreal and Vancouver to target containers arriving in those ports that are destined for each other’s countries.¹⁸

On July 15th, 2002, the White House announced a strategy for protecting the homeland, the first of its kind in U.S. history, including the most involved re-organization of the American government in over fifty years. Noteworthy for trade, the Department of Homeland Security gathered together all border, transport and immigration agencies into one agency, combining functions previously managed by Immigration and Naturalization, Coast Guard, Customs, Border Patrol, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Secret Service, Transportation Security Administration, and the border inspection authority of the Animal and Plant Inspection Service. \$10.9 billion has been budgeted for securing the land, sea and air borders, with money specifically earmarked for implementing the Smart Border plan. A clearly stated goal of the Department of Homeland Security is to attempt to marry the contradictory stands of “manag[ing] risk in our border and transportation security systems while ensuring the expedient flow of goods, services, and people.”¹⁹

¹⁸ On June 28th, 2002, in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Manley and Ridge reported on the progress that had been made with respect to the plan—which was considerable in such a short span. At the time of announcement, all of the 30 points had been taken up (although some more than others).

¹⁹ United States Department of Homeland Security, *National Strategy for Homeland Security* (2002), 22.