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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) Environmental security (ES), as a process for responding to those environmental issues having the potential to affect U.S. national security, has significant implications for the military national defense mission. This paper provides: an overview of the strategic significance of ES (Chapter 1) and of definition problems (Chapter 2); an ES "primer" which discusses the importance of population trends and presents in lay terms the scientific basis for critical environmental issues, i.e., global climate change, land use, water use (Chapter 3); a strategic threat assessment of these issues based on geographic information systems (GIS) analysis followed by a listing of proposed military ES missions (Chapter 4); and a summary of the national security implications of ES issues and recommendations for action (Chapter 5). Major conclusions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ES must be a component of the overall national security mission. • The military services have an important, though supporting, role in ES initiatives. • Areas of Central and North Africa, the western Pacific Islands, the Ganges River area, and parts of Central and South America are least stable regions from an ES standpoint. • Regional threat analysis is most effectively conducted by geographic Commanders in Chief. • The Theater Engagement Planning Process is the appropriate military vehicle for ES mission planning. 				
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