STATUS OF MISSILE DEFENSE

Gregory H. Canavan
Senior Fellow & Scientific Advisor
Los Alamos National Laboratory

Views are those of author

Outline

- Past
- Present
- Future

- G. Canavan, *Missile Defense for the 21st Century* (Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C., 2003)
- http://www.heritage.org/research/nationalsecurity/missiledefense.cfm

WWII (Pr. Roosevelt)

- Radar-pointed gun successful against VI
 - Terminal
 - Midcourse
- Backtrack V2
 - Boost
 - Interdiction
- Eisenhower on D day

'50-60s: Bombers → Missiles (Pr. Eisenhower, Kennedy)

- '50s: Whirlwind: defense against bombers
 - missiles arrive earlier
- '60s: Army Nike → Sentinel → Safeguard
 - Midcourse (Spartan) long time, but all objects ballistic
 - cannot discriminate
 - blackout midcourse radars by self or precursor attacks
 - Terminal (Sprint): atmospheric discrimination
 - short range → close to cities → NIMBY
 - Boost phase not technically feasible (Bambi)

'70s (early): Safeguard Debates (Pr. Johnson & Nixon)

- Physics precluded effectiveness
- Advocated strongly anyway
- Pyrrhic victory—activated for few months
 - Taken to indicate missile defenses impossible
 - ABM Treaty & MAD doctrine
 - Continuing mistrust—No change since '72

'70s (late) Systems → Technology (Pr. Carter)

- Meant to kill missile defense—saved it
 - Hit to Kill by Army
 - no nuclear release
 - x-band radars to reduce blackout
 - Space based
 - Laser (SBL) by DARPA
 - Neutral particle beam (NPB) discrimination by AF
 - Satellite sensors to cover globe (technically)
- Missile accuracy

'80s: Strategic Defense Initiative (Pr. Reagan & Bush)

- WHSC screen options to Soviet buildup
 - "We build, they build. We don't build, they build"—Brown
 - Little beyond Force Modernization in offensive systems
 - Defensive systems immature, but promising
- 2 years until Brilliant Pebble
 - survive & address Soviet missile threat
 - GBI underlay for 2 layer system—not critical
- BP dropped for deployment: political > technical
- Uncertain GBI layer face full attack
- Defense or bargaining chip? Got S.U.s' attention

Theater Missile Defense→National Missile Defense (Pr. Clinton)

- Gulf War deficiencies recognized Pr. Bush
- Killed BP
- GBI—proposals returned unopened
 - GBI remained alive in Army GBX at Huntsville
- NK No Dong forced national missile defense
 - resurrected GBI only
- IRT: GBI assumed more threat knowledge
 - than Intel could provide

National Policy on Ballistic Missile Defense

- Deploy as soon as technically feasible
 - NMD Act 1999
- Withdraw from ABM Treaty
 - Pr. Bush 14 Dec 2001
- Begin deploy 2004
 - White House Fact Sheet, 20 May 2003
 - No fixed architecture
 - Cooperation with close, long-standing allies

Ballistic Missile Defense Block 04 (Pr. Bush)

Phases

Pro

Con

- Boost

• ABL

range, cover size, wt, integr, cost, leth

• KEI

KV, multi-use develop, range

• SBI

coverage, \$\\$ develop, absentee, politics

- Midcourse

• GMD

develop, mult coverage, cost, discrim

Naval

ships, radar range, develop

Terminal

THAAD, PAC ICBMs

• C2BMC

regional

global

MDA Summary Self Assessment)

- Goals established by President being met
- Readiness is #1 priority
- Aggressive RDT&E program
- Proposed program balance development & fielding efforts w/\$ constraints

IRT Summary

- GMD needs to enter <u>Performance & Reliability Verification Phase</u>
- Recommendations
 - Rigorous flight readiness certification process
 - Strengthen systems engineering
 - Additional ground-based qualification testing
 - Contractors functionally accountable
 - Assure that GMD program is executable

Issues

- GMD failed field tests
- GMD discrimination
- Boost phase immature
- Political opposition
- Terminal vs ICBM
- Command & Control
- Global conflict

Q&A should fix

adequate rogues

rebalance \$

delayed timescale

accelerate develop

extend C2BMC

missile defense key