

ACTION MEMO

DepSecDef

USDP

I-04/014171-ISP

ES-1171

DEC 15 2004

FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Mira Ricardel, ASD/ISP (Acting)

DEC 1 2004

SUBJECT: Discussing Operation of Initial Missile Defense System

- You asked Policy to draft a declaratory policy to describe the operation of our initial missile defense capabilities once the current "shakedown period" has been completed.
- Attached at Tab A is a draft declaratory policy which has been coordinated with the Missile Defense Agency, General Counsel, the Joint Staff, NORTHCOM, PACOM, and STRATCOM.
 - Steve Cambone also offered a number of comments, each of which we incorporated.
 - The draft declaratory policy is intended to put our missile defense efforts into context, to deter potential adversaries, and to make clear that the U.S. is working with friends and allies.
- You specifically asked us to consider how best to address the possibility of a missile attack under the guise of a pre-announced space launch.
 - The draft declaratory policy addresses this and other potential circumstances through use of a formulation that is clear, simple, and broad in its coverage:

"The missile defense system is available to engage launches that we determine are on a trajectory that threatens the United States or its deployed forces. Such events include deliberate, unauthorized, or accidental launches."
- In crafting this formulation, we attempted to avoid phrases that could be viewed as overly muscular or mischaracterized as a means of forcibly controlling access to space.
- We expect it will be necessary to update this declaratory policy as we develop greater capabilities, and reach agreements on the circumstances under which other nations would receive protection and their respective contribution.

RECOMMENDATION: Review and approve draft declaratory policy attached at Tab A.

Attachment: a/s

SECDEF DECISION:

APPROVED: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____

OTHER: _____

USD 20228-04

01-12-04 16:40 IN



Prepared by: John Rood, DASD Forces Policy, 695-5553, 30 November 2004

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Missile Defense Declaratory Policy

Introduction

- Today, many nations, including some of the world's least responsible states, possess ballistic missiles of increasing range and complexity.
- To address the growing threat of ballistic missile attack, President Bush directed the development and fielding of an initial set of missile defense capabilities that would begin operating in 2004.

Description of Today's Capability

- The U.S. has begun operating a set of missile defense capabilities.
- The system's capability will be improved continually through additional testing and the insertion of additional or new capabilities as they become available and are needed to meet mission objectives.
- The U.S. will continue a robust research, development, testing, and evaluation program while conducting operations of the missile defense system.
 - o Through these continuous efforts and the fielding of additional capabilities, the performance of the initial system and its ability to defend against more complex threats will continue to improve.

Purpose of the System

- The purpose of the missile defense system is to deter and defend against a deliberate missile attack, as well as to counter unauthorized or accidental missile launches.
- The Department of Defense is developing and deploying missile defenses capable of protecting not only the United States, but also our friends and allies, and is pursuing cooperative relationships with a number of countries.
- As the President stated on June 17, 2002, "[b]ecause these threats endanger our allies and friends around the world, it is essential that we work together to defend against them. . ."
- The participation of friends and allies will, over time, extend to them the benefits of missile defense.



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Use of the System

- The missile defense system is available to engage launches that we determine are on a trajectory that threatens the United States or its deployed forces. Such events include deliberate, unauthorized, or accidental launches.
- U.S. missile defenses will be integrated with offensive capabilities to improve the ability to defeat and defend against potential attacks, deter and dissuade potential foes, and assure the American people and allies.
 - Regardless of whether a missile attack is successfully intercepted, the United States will consider the full range of its response options in light of the circumstances surrounding such an event.
- To ensure that peaceful launches are not construed as hostile acts, the United States encourages the public announcement of upcoming launches, as many countries do so today.

Conclusion

- We are fielding an initial missile defense system that will continue to evolve and become increasingly more capable over time.
- We intend to continue to pursue the most promising technologies and basing modes to strengthen this system.
- The message to potential adversaries is clear: We are determined to make the pursuit of ballistic missiles designed to threaten or deter the United States, its deployed forces, or friends and allies an increasingly costly and ineffective proposition.



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FOUO

December 21, 2004

TO: Paul Butler

FROM: Donald Rumsfeld *DR*

SUBJECT: Missile Defense Declaratory Policy

Please make sure this declaratory policy is staffed out to Policy, Di Rita and Cambone.

Thanks.

Attach.

12/1/04 ASD(ISP) memo to SecDef re: Missile Defense Declaratory Policy

DHR:dh
122104-15

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Please respond by

1/13/05

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FOUO

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ACTION MEMO OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

DepSecDef

2004 DEC 16 PM 12:03

USDP

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01-12-04 06:40 20228-04

MA SD	SM-BSD	SPB	12/20
7SA SD	SA DSD	12/20	
EXEC SEC	12/17		
ESR MA	12/16	12-16	-04

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