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**Baghdad**

FR, 29/07  
 +45..+47 °C  
 W, 6 m/s

**Basrah**

FR, 29/07  
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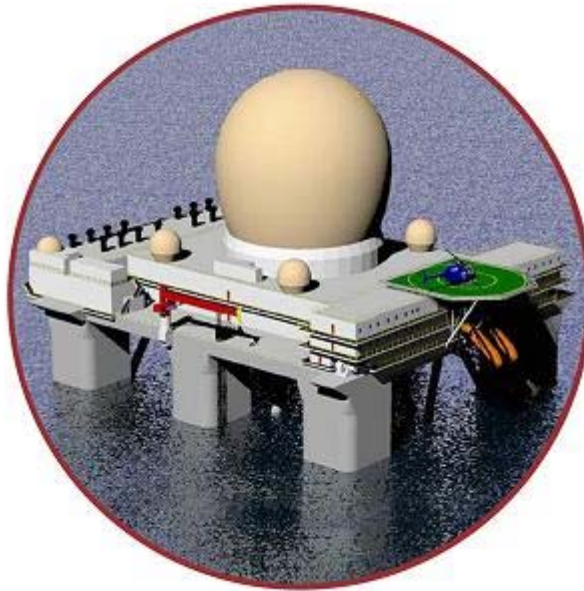
< Jul >   < 2005 >

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**Today**

## US: Another step for Global War, Floating Missile Defense Radar Completed

By: Various on: 28.07.2005 [09:27 ] (716 reads)



*"The Sea-Based X-Band Radar represents a critical step in the continuing development of not only the ground-based midcourse defense, but the other elements of the overall ballistic missile defense system as well, adding increased capability across the board for a layered defense against ballistic missiles of all ranges, during any phase of their flight..."*

*For decades, U.S. policy has been to avoid putting weapons in space. But under the current administration, we see a reversal of that attitude. Now it is becoming more acceptable to speak of "space control... Washington is now in process of reformulating its national space policy. A new version is supposed to be coming out this summer*

*In wargames of the U.S. military, the use of space weapons has led very quickly to simulated nuclear exchanges*

*During the Clinton administration, Pentagon plans called for building an X-band radar on Shemya. Department of Defense officials pushed President Bill Clinton to authorize starting construction at Shemya before he left office, but he declined in September 2000.*

*Building a sea-based X-band radar was not part of the Clinton administration's missile defense plans. A sea-based radar would have violated the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, which is now no longer in force following the June 13 U.S. withdrawal. (See ACT, July/August 2002.) The ABM Treaty ruled out, among other things, development, testing, and deployment of sea-based defenses against strategic ballistic missiles.*



## Floating Missile Defense Radar Completed

(Source: Boeing Co.; issued July 26, 2005)

ST. LOUIS --- The Boeing-led Sea-Based X-Band Radar (SBX) industry team and the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) officially dedicated the SBX radar, a key component of Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) program.

**"The Sea-Based X-Band Radar represents a critical step in the continuing development of not only the ground-based midcourse defense, but the other elements of the overall ballistic missile defense system as well, adding increased capability across the board for a layered defense against ballistic missiles of all ranges, during any phase of their flight,"** said Boeing Vice President and General Manager Pat Shanahan. "The addition of such a revolutionary radar capability will also provide increased flexibility for realistic testing in different flight test scenarios."

A number of representatives from industry and government attended the dedication of the SBX at Kiewit Offshore Services in Corpus Christi, Texas.

**SBX consists of a highly advanced X-band radar system mounted on a sea-going platform. It will be able to track, discriminate and assess a variety of ballistic missile threats.** SBX passes data to elements of the ballistic missile defense system to facilitate the interception of missiles by ground and/or sea-based interceptors. The radar will continue to relay updated targeting information after an interceptor launches its kill vehicle toward the incoming target. Initially, the radar will be used to support both operations and testing of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense system, which is specifically designed to provide a defense of our homeland against a limited long-range ballistic missile attack.

SBX's floating platform, a modified oil-drilling vessel, measures 240 feet wide and 390 feet long. It includes a power plant, bridge and control rooms, living quarters, storage areas and the infrastructure necessary to support the massive X-band radar. The X-band radar, sitting on top of the vessel, **is the largest, most sophisticated phased array, electro-mechanically steered X-band radar in the world, consisting of thousands of antennae driven by transmit/receive modules.**

Over the next several months, the SBX will undergo a wide range of sea trials and exercises before cruising to its homeport of Adak, Alaska, in the Aleutian Islands. It will be capable of moving throughout the Pacific Ocean to support missile defense advanced testing and defensive operations.



Boeing-led Sea-Based X-Band Radar (SBX)

As prime contractor for the GMD program, Boeing is responsible for the development and integration of the GMD system components, including the SBX; ground-based interceptor; battle management, command, control and communication systems; early warning radars; and interfaces to the defense support program early warning satellite system. Raytheon built the SBX radar.

A unit of The Boeing Company, **Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is one of the world's largest space and defense businesses.** Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a \$30.5 billion business. It provides network-centric system solutions to its global military, government, and commercial customers. It is a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems; the world's largest military aircraft manufacturer; the world's largest satellite manufacturer and a leading provider of space-based communications; the primary systems integrator for U.S. missile defense; NASA's largest contractor; and a global leader in sustainment solutions and launch services.

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Space weapons cause problems

First appeared in The Topeka Capital-Journal July 15, 2005

**For decades, U.S. policy has been to avoid putting weapons in space. But under the current administration, we see a reversal of that attitude. Now it is becoming more acceptable to speak of "space control." It appears that the military is quietly trying to establish programs so that the United States will have de facto space weapons. This is being done under the radar, with the hopes that by the time these systems are ready to deploy,**

public opinion might be more conducive.

**Current space policy dates back to 1996, under the Clinton administration. It stresses peaceful uses and downplays military applications, but leaves the door open for some anti-satellite weapons programs for national security reasons. In general, though, it is widely interpreted as stressing a deterrent approach, with the aim of achieving space control without space-based weapons.**

Contrast this with the 2001 Rumsfeld space commission, which predicts fighting war "in, from, and through space," and worries about a "Space Pearl Harbor." Over the past few years, the Air Force has released several planning documents and made public comments about the "vulnerability" of U.S. space assets and need for "space control."

**Washington is now in process of reformulating its national space policy. A new version is supposed to be coming out this summer.** It will most likely not explicitly instruct the U.S. military to develop and deploy space weapons. However, there will probably be a fundamental shift in policy in that it will be friendlier to the idea of weaponry.

The United States has most to lose with its reliance on its space capabilities. These weapons are extremely destabilizing: because of their expense and the need to maintain "eyes in the sky," they become use or lose assets. **In wargames of the U.S. military, the use of space weapons has led very quickly to simulated nuclear exchanges.**

**Space weapons are also unnecessary, as the United States is already the overwhelming military power in the world. The United States is responsible for about 99 percent of the world's military space spending.** And the Pentagon's budget for this fiscal year is almost as much as the rest of the world combined. It is eight times larger than the nearest national military budget (China) and 29 times larger than the military budgets of what used to be called the "rogue states."

Additionally, from a logistical viewpoint, it is unclear how space weapons would be effectively used. **The United States is not really able to determine the reason why a satellite stops functioning while it is on-orbit.** It could theoretically be traced to an attack, but it also could very well be because of production quality control issues, faulty technology, solar flares, and a host of other innocent reasons. Plus, given how multinational all satellite systems are, a retributive hit is apt to target a system that has allies involved, carries U.S. military satellite communications, and/or affects America's civilian population.

Space warfare truly illustrates the law of unintended consequences. For example, commercial satellites carry 80 percent of the military's communications in Iraq. There is no clear distinction between civilian and military interests in space, thus the deleterious effects of space warfare would be felt globally.

Debris in space resulting from explosions or attacks on-orbit would also be devastating to U.S. and other space assets. Objects are traveling at high speeds so it would not take a very large object to create a ruinous impact. The Air Force tracks around 13,000 objects circling our planet, of which only six percent are working satellites. The rest is space debris. Furthermore, an estimated 100,000 more objects are smaller than a softball. We already have a lot to monitor in space; it would be foolish to add to this challenge.

**Yes, we need an explicit discussion of pros and cons of weaponizing space. That way if we do decide that their benefits outweigh their costs, we will have a program whose risks have been examined and deemed acceptable. This is opposed to wandering haphazardly along, and only finding out the detractions to space weapons when it is too late.**

Author(s): Victoria Samson

[link](#)

*2002 article*

Pentagon Opts for Sea-Based Missile Defense Radar

Wade Boese

**Shelving earlier Pentagon plans to build an advanced missile defense radar on a remote Alaskan island, the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) awarded a \$31 million contract August 1 to Boeing to begin development of a sea-based X-band radar for missile defense testing.**

**MDA wants the floating X-band radar, which is designed to track and discriminate among warheads, decoys, and debris in outer space with high precision, operational by September 2005.** MDA estimates that completing the project will total \$900 million.

The August 1 contract only covers activities during the first phase of a four-part program. During the initial phase, which lasts until October of this year, Boeing will do preliminary design work and reserve construction materials for building the sea-based platform.



Boeing-led Sea-Based X-Band Radar (SBX)

Congress will need to authorize funding for the radar, which will be done through reprogramming existing money rather than requesting new funds. In other words, MDA is not planning to ask for additional money to pay for the radar, but will take funds from other missile defense projects.

MDA decided to pursue a sea-based version of the radar rather than building it on land because the sea-based version's mobility would enable more varied testing of proposed missile defense systems, according to an MDA spokesperson. The official explained that the sea-based version would be capable of testing 13 different intercept trajectories, whereas various land-based locations would be limited to tracking objects in up to five scenarios at most.

The Pentagon might still build an X-band radar on land as part of a deployed missile defense system, but no deployment decisions have been made, the spokesperson said.

MDA will, however, upgrade the existing Cobra Dane radar, a less precise radar than an X-band radar, on Shemya Island at the western tip of the Aleutians for use in testing missile defense systems. The upgrade is scheduled to be finished by September 2004.

**During the Clinton administration, Pentagon plans called for building an X-band radar on Shemya. Department of Defense officials pushed President Bill Clinton to authorize starting construction at Shemya before he left office, but he declined in September 2000.**

**Building a sea-based X-band radar was not part of the Clinton administration's missile defense plans. A sea-based radar would have violated the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, which is now no longer in force following the June 13 U.S. withdrawal. (See ACT, July/August 2002.) The ABM Treaty ruled out, among other things, development, testing, and deployment of sea-based components for defenses against strategic ballistic missiles.**

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*Has probably some of you already noted, i have the opinion that US have very dangerous plans in mind, and the intentions of put weapons in space and trying to stop incoming ICBM's just mean one thing, US is preparing to engage in a very big/hi-tech/nuclear war.*

*My theory is, they are preparing to engage their most dangerous competitor in all fields: China. If they succeed in deploying a ABM system that really works, on that day we can count the days for a global war. US is on top of the world, and they will do what have to be done in order to maintain their supremacy.*

*These articles show (with so many others here in IraqWar), that all available money goes to US Military Machine. They build, develop, and deploy at fast speeds, and they (military) get all the money they need.*

*I suggest you to read first what is at bold, but i am the opinion that these articles deserves a full read.*

*Comments by FromPortugal*

6 comments

<input type="radio"/> Only comments	Comments per page 50 
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Article and comments	<input type="button" value="Send"/>

#### **Last moves of the US**

by Yasis on 28.07.2005 [12:04 ]

Yes, the US bastards are paranoid and they secretly fear China. Their status as a hegemon is reaching the critical phase and their policy makers know this.

There was a CIA study that predicted that US influence will slowly decline in a few decades' time.

US bastards want to engage in a war of resources. If this missile crap succeeds, China must take up the challenge and respond forcefully by increasing military expenditure. More resources wasted.

All this effort by the US bastards will fail. Invasion of Iraq, space based weapons, war on terror, geopolitical moves etc. All these crap to save their dying empire.

If a nation spends more money on the military than on welfare of its people, will it survive?

I laugh at these pathetic moves of the US bastards.

#### **Link**

by Yasis on 28.07.2005 [12:06 ]

Link to article on CIA report: <http://slate.msn.com/id/2112697/>.

**very, very, interesting**

by tiger on 28.07.2005 [22:57 ]

This is the first I heard of these floating radar platforms. So, the USAn imperialists have actually built the first of these and are now testing it. The photos show how huge these things are.

FromPortugal, I think you're right in your analysis, that this is another step in the Anglosphere-imperialist plan to eventually destroy China.

I guess the basic plan is to float these things around China and then use the data from these floating radars to precisely guide ship-launched anti-missile missiles to intercept and destroy China's land-based ICBMs during their launch and boost phase when they are still moving slow enough to be successfully engaged by ship-launched anti-missile missiles.

North Korea is another potential target of this strategy.

**Comments by FromPortugal**

by Neal on 29.07.2005 [01:18 ]

Mate it doesn't matter if they see them coming or not, if they've got nothing to shoot them down with all they get to see is their own deaths .200 seconds before it happens.

I couldn't be happier for that time to be a little longer.

Fact is Russia and China have gear that can dump on US and the US has nothing that can stop them.

It turns into a "Lobbing Race" is all ... we still have that missile send it.

Typical American war losing shit ... seen it in every war they's ever been involved in.

They couldn't even win their own "war of independence".

1997 the Queen wrote legislation and forced it past the US govt.

I agree Portugal that the Us is going to play a dangerous game, that game will see them totally destroyed along with your mates in Zionist Israel.

Israel will be liquified before 29th Nov 2005 ... not long to wait right??

**tell me this.**

by Neal on 29.07.2005 [01:26 ]

launched from a China or Russian Sub the sunburn traveling at 1500 miles an hour travels at 9 foot above the water and a millisecond before hitting pops up and dumps on this bloody thing.

UK US and IS have nothing that can stop the Russian Sunburn.

How much money goes to the bottom with each one?

Who cares what the US float out there, take a look at the bloody size of these targets. The Sunburn could have brain damage and still hit it man.

**this is proving**

by aimatti on 29.07.2005 [07:16 ]

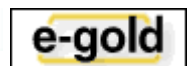
more and more that the usa is nothing but one huge military camp. it is the mother of all dual use countries. combined with its estimated \$1 trillion for space weapons, it will soon go bankrupt.

**Posting comments:**

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<b>Min</b>	<b>Max</b>
23006	26052



Jul 10: One by suicide  
car bomb near Fallujah

Jul 07-08: Karate official  
found dead in Kut

Jul 09: Family of four  
shot dead in Baiji

Jul 08: Policeman shot  
dead in west Mosul

Jul 08: Bodies of four  
men found in Mosul

Jul 08: Four in taxi shot  
dead in Mosul

Jul 08: University

