

Executive Director's Report

Changing Faces

We have news of several changes in the Council family. This is the last Council meeting for two Council members, Wally Pereyra and RADM Terry Cross. Wally hit his limit, and ADM Cross is off to Washington, D.C., where he will take over as the Director of Operation Policies at Coast Guard headquarters. He will be relieved by RADM Thomas Barrett on June 30. Both Council members have been a pleasure to work with, and they will be honored at our community reception Wednesday night.

Additionally, John Lewis is leaving the AP and heading to Pennsylvania. Steve Klosiewski, USFWS, has left the SSC because of reassignments within his agency, and Doug Alcorn will replace Everett Robinson-Wilson as the USFWS representative on the Council. Our October meeting will be his first meeting.

New NOAA Fisheries Ombudsman

In early May, Secretary Daley announced the appointment of Sebastian O'Kelly to the position of Fisheries Ombudsman in NOAA. A news release is under item B-1(a). He is with us at this meeting, and interested in any fisheries issues you may want to talk about.

October Meeting

Our next Council meeting will be in Seattle the week of October 11. We will again be at the SeaTac Doubletree Inn, and we will have our annual joint session with the IPHC. It will be a long meeting and will include final decisions on the bairdi rebuilding plan and the P. cod split for fixed gear. Several other items on the agenda include initial review of shark management, Cook Inlet non-pelagic trawl plan, and observer regulatory amendments. We also will review IFQ and groundfish proposals, plus there will be lingering AFA issues to discuss. The AP and SSC will start on Monday and the Council will begin with the joint meeting with the IPHC on Tuesday and convene their regular plenary session on Wednesday.

Proposed Board-Council Meeting

We listened in on a Board of Fisheries teleconference on May 14 when the Board reviewed petitions from industry concerning the Board's decisions in March on crab management. The Board decided to consult with the Council over the stand-down for groundfish trawl gear prior to participating in crab fisheries. A two-step approach was recommended, starting with a joint committee meeting on July 28, followed by a joint full Board-Council meeting sometime in August. We have since suggested to the Board that it may save time, money, and energy if we skipped the joint committee meeting and went straight to a full joint meeting on July 28. I hope to have a response to you this week, but as yet have not heard back from the Board.

National Missile Defense Fiber Optic Cable

The Army is soliciting public comments about a proposed route for a fiber optic cable (item B-1(b)).

Mail for Clarence Pautzke

Date: 5/13/1999
Sender: constaff@hulkhovis.rdc.noaa.gov
To: Clarence Pautzke
Priority: Normal
Subject: Sec. Daley Creates Ombudsman for Marine Fisheries Issues

TO: Clarence Pautzke
North Pacific Fishery
9,1-907-271-2817

NOAA 99-R037
Constituent Contact: Susan A. Weaver
(202) 482-2610

5/11/99

SECRETARY DALEY CREATES OMBUDSMAN FOR MARINE FISHERIES ISSUES
Appoints Former Senate Government Affairs Committee Staffer,
Sebastian O'Kelly

Commerce Secretary William M. Daley today announced the appointment of Sebastian O'Kelly to the newly created position of Fisheries Ombudsman in the department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. O'Kelly will act as the liaison between fishermen and conservationists and NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service.

"I've listened to requests of the fishing industry and environmental groups and have provided a new line of communication to federal managers that will allow a more rapid response to constituent concerns and questions. NOAA's new Fisheries Ombudsman will offer an avenue of constructive dialogue in a manner that benefits stakeholders while at the same time helping us better manage and protect our fisheries and marine mammal resources," said Commerce Secretary William M. Daley. "Sebastian O'Kelly has the experience and abilities to improve an often contentious relationship and help ensure the decision-making practices and procedures are reasonable and fair."

Sworn in for duty today, O'Kelly will be working with Commerce and NOAA leadership to facilitate cooperative relationships with constituent groups. His office will be located at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"Becoming the Fisheries Ombudsman gives me the opportunity to make the marine resource regulatory process more transparent and give our stakeholders a voice in final decision making that they perceive is currently lacking," said O'Kelly. "I will work closely with Dr. Baker and Penny Dalton to identify areas of potential conflict that can be resolved before major disputes arise, and advise leadership on how to effectively resolve these issues."

In his former staff position with the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, O'Kelly was responsible for legislative and oversight duties on science, environment, federalism, trade, and government management issues for Chairman and Ranking Member John Glenn for nine years. While in the position O'Kelly helped coordinate the committee response to deflect legislation to dismantle the Commerce Department and NOAA, worked to combat anti-environmental riders, established legislation to elevate the EPA to a cabinet level status, and handled GATT and NAFTA implementing legislation on international government procurement rules.

In general, ombudsman responsibilities include actively consulting with and

Mail for Clarence Pautzke

soliciting the views and opinions of the commercial and recreational fishing community, environmental groups, and other relevant stakeholders.

Constituents may reach the Fisheries Ombudsman's office by phone at (202) 482-4540, or by mail at Fisheries Ombudsman, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 14th & Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20203.

The National Marine Fisheries Service is an agency of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, dedicated to protecting and preserving the nation's ocean wildlife through scientific research, fisheries management, habitat conservation, and enforcement of federal wildlife law.

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Constituents who are not already receiving NOAA press releases and who wish to be added to our NOAA Constituent Database, or who wish to switch from fax to e-mail delivery, can send an e-mail to Susan.A.Weaver@hdq.noaa.gov. Please do not utilize the respond function for e-mail correspondence.



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND
POST OFFICE BOX 1500
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35807-3801

MAY 26 1999

RECEIVED
MAY 28 1999
N.P.F.M.C

Environmental Division

Mr. Clarence Pautzke
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Mr. Pautzke:

The National Missile Defense (NMD) Joint Program Office is in the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the deployment of an NMD system. As part of this program, there may be the requirement to install a fiber optic cable in the ocean along the Aleutian Islands from Whitter or Seward to Shemya Island (Eareckson AS). This fiber optic cable line may cross fishing areas along the Aleutian Islands. As part of our effort to get input from the public, we would like to submit the following fact sheets for public review and comment at the June 9-14, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting:

- a. NMD Fiber Optic Cable Line Route for the Aleutian Islands
- b. NMD Deployment Concept
- c. Proposed Action NMD Environmental Impact Statement

Our goal is to obtain any comments or suggestions from any fishing interest or general public concerning the proposed fiber optic cable route. Any comments on the proposed fiber optic cable route will assist us in addressing concerns in the EIS and help the NMD program in making a decision on where to install the proposed cable. Please note that the proposed route shown on the fact sheet is preliminary and will be finalized based on a sea bottom floor survey and public input. In addition, please inform us if there are any additional organizations we should contact or locations where we should provide the fact sheets.

If you have any questions or comments, please call Mr. David Hasley of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command at (256) 955-4170.

Sincerely,



for John L. Ramey
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
Deputy Chief of Staff,
Engineer

Enclosure



FACT SHEET

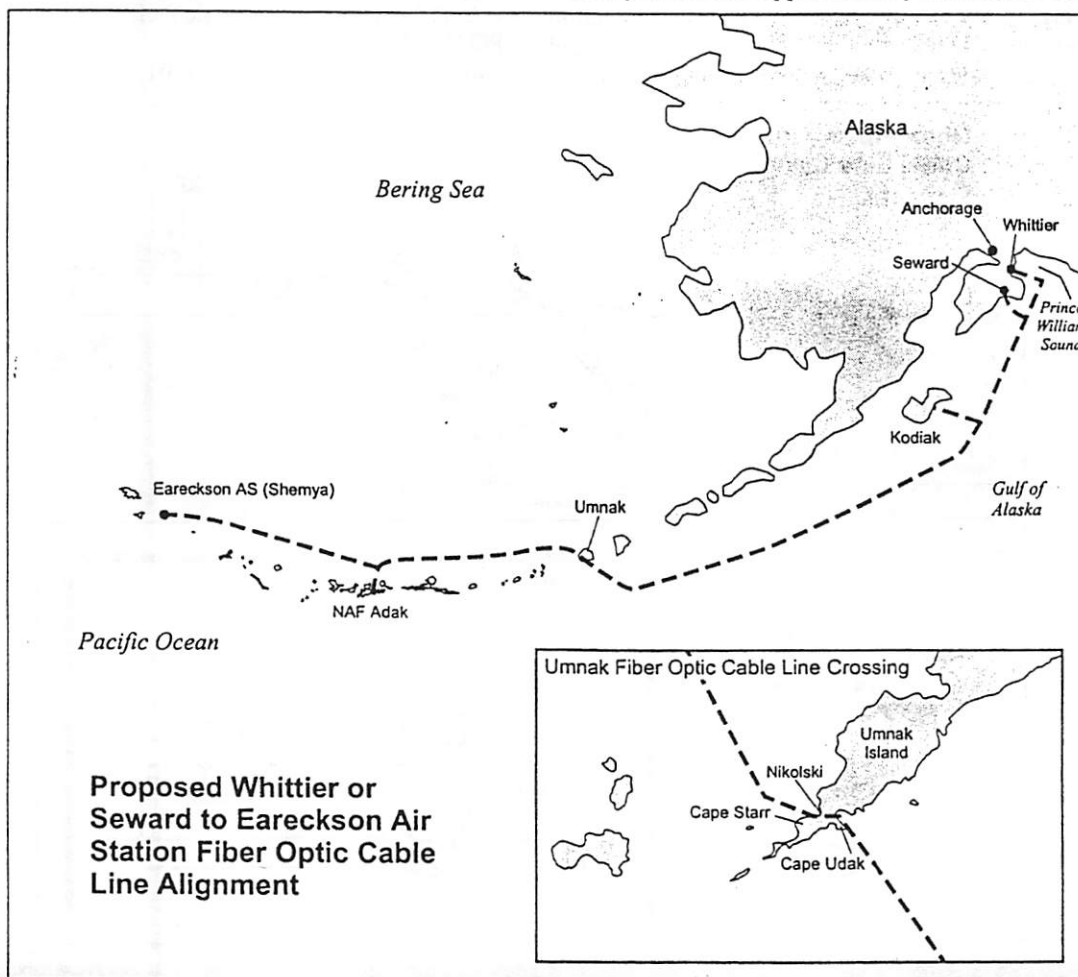


NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE (NMD) FIBER OPTIC CABLE LINE ROUTE FOR THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

INTRODUCTION

The National Missile Defense Joint Program Office of the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization is in the process of preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the deployment of an NMD system. As part of the NMD deployment, a fiber optic cable line may be required to provide a communication link to a potential radar on Eareckson AS (Shemya Island). The fiber optic cable line would run along the Aleutian Island Chain from Whittier or Seward to Eareckson Air Station (AS). An exact alignment has not been determined, but would likely follow the Aleutian Islands. In

addition to this proposed route, a second redundant line may be needed to meet NMD reliability requirements. The second route could go along the northern Aleutian Islands or connect to existing fiber optic cable lines in the central Pacific. Installation methods for the second route would be similar to those described for the Whittier or Seward to Eareckson AS route. If it is determined that a fiber optic cable line is required to Eareckson AS, a detailed ocean bottom survey would be conducted to determine the exact alignment. This detailed survey would take approximately 6 months to complete.



DESCRIPTION

The fiber optic cable line would be approximately 3,592 kilometers (2,232 miles) long and approximately 8 centimeters (3 inches) in diameter. This cable would primarily be placed underwater. The fiber optic cable line would be buried at a depth of 1 meter (3 feet) or more for ocean depths up to 1,372 meters (4,500 feet) to avoid interference with fishing equipment and activities. For depths greater than 1,372 meters (4,500 feet), cable burial would not be necessary. The cable laying operation would be similar to any commercial cable laying operation.

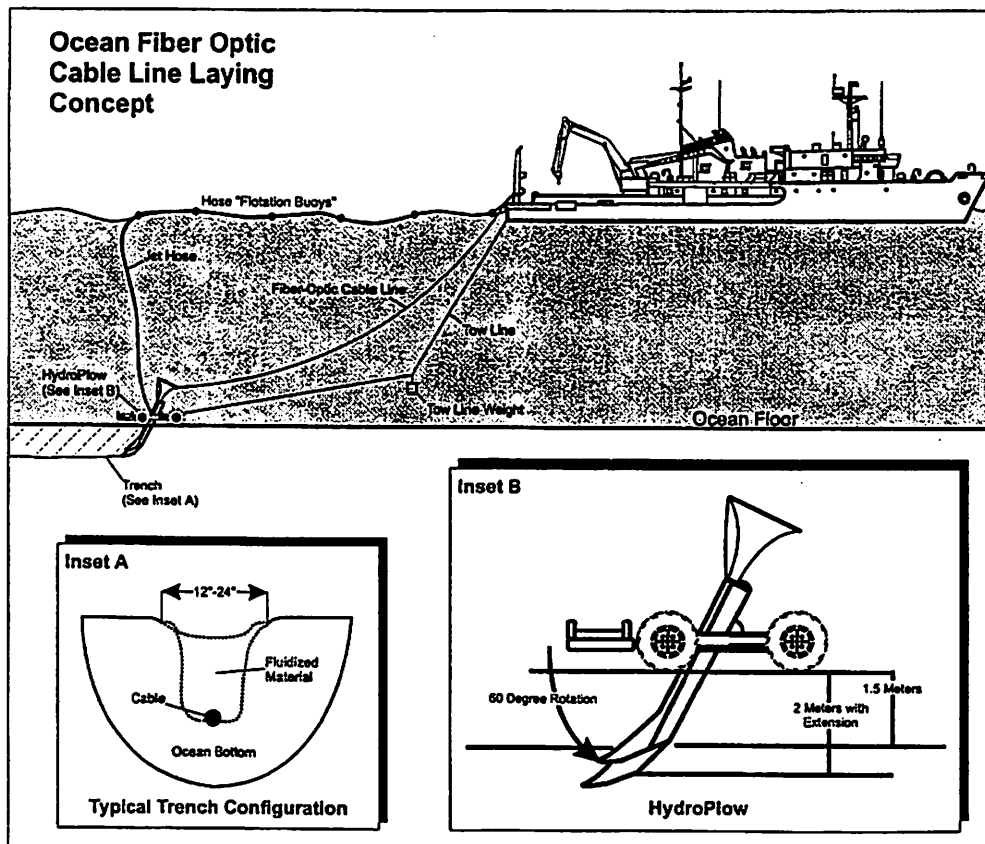
The proposed fiber optic cable route will start in Whittier or Seward using a pre-installed conduit. From the terminal building to the shoreline, the cable would be placed alongside an existing commercial fiber optic cable. From the shore, the cable would be placed in the ocean until making a landing on the island of Kodiak north of the town of Monashka Bay. This would require crossing 457 meters (1,500 feet) of beach/land prior to reaching the existing utility corridors. From Kodiak, the cable would again be placed in the ocean up to the island of Umnak, where the cable would transition from the south side to the north side of the Aleutian Islands. The cable route across the island would be along an existing dirt track. A terminal structure of 18 square meters (196 square feet) would be constructed on the island to which the cables would connect. This facility would include an electrical generator, batteries, and a diesel fuel tank. From Umnak, the cable would make the next landing at Adak across a sand beach where

previous government cable had been placed. The cable would then be laid to the island of Shemya and would make landfall near the southeast end of the island (Fox Beach). Because the final ocean and land routes have not been completely surveyed for anomalies that may interfere with the cable, the final route may change. The cable laying ship moves at approximately 5 kilometers (3 miles) per hour and operates 24 hours a day. This constant movement by the cable laying ship would help avoid any scheduling conflicts with fisherman since the ship would not be in any one place for more than a few minutes. Once the cable is in place, normal fishing activities can resume.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Since the proposed fiber optic cable route is still under study, your input into the proposed alignment would be helpful to the NMD program in making a final decision. If you need more information concerning the NMD program and the EIS, visit the BMDO website at: www.acq.osd.mil/bmdo/bmdolink/html/nmd.html or by calling 1-800-342-4193. To provide comments or to receive a copy of the EIS please contact:

SMDC-EN-V, Ms. Julia Hudson
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command
PO Box 1500
Huntsville, Alabama 35807-3801





FACT SHEET



Proposed Action

National Missile Defense Environmental Impact Statement

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Within the Department of Defense (DOD), the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) is responsible for managing, directing, and executing the Ballistic Missile Defense Program. The Ballistic Missile Defense Program focuses on three areas: Theater Missile Defenses to meet the existing missile threat to deployed U.S. and allied forces, National Missile Defense (NMD) to negate limited strategic ballistic missile attacks against the United States by a rogue nation, and advanced Ballistic Missile Defense technologies to improve the performance of theater and NMD systems.

The NMD Program was originally a technology development effort. In 1996, at the direction of the Secretary of Defense, NMD was designated a Major Defense Acquisition Program and transitioned to an acquisition effort. Concurrently, BMDO was tasked with developing a deployable system. In the year 2000, there will be a DOD Deployment Readiness Review to review technical readiness of NMD elements. Thereafter, the United States Government will determine whether the threat, developed capability, and other pertinent factors justify deploying an operational system.

The NMD system would be a fixed, land-based, non-nuclear missile defense system with a space-based detection system capable of responding to limited strategic ballistic missile threats to the United States from an unauthorized or accidental launch from a rogue nation. The NMD system would consist of five elements: Battle Management, Command, Control, and Communications (BMC3), which includes the Battle Management, Command and Control (BMC2), the communication lines, and the In-Flight Interceptor Communications System (IFICS) as subelements; Ground Based Interceptor (GBI); X-Band Radar (XBR); Upgraded Early Warning Radar (UEWR); and a space-based detection system. Depending on the capability available if or when a deployment decision is made, the space-based detection capability would either be the existing Defense Support Program early-warning satellites or Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS) satellites currently being developed by the Air Force.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and technology of long range missiles is increasing the threat to our national security. The purpose of the NMD program is defense of the United States against a threat of a limited strategic ballistic missile attack from rogue nations. Such a system would also provide some capability against a small accidental or unauthorized launch of strategic ballistic missiles from more nuclear capable states.

DECISION(S) TO BE MADE

The decision to be made is whether to deploy an NMD system. A decision to deploy an NMD system would include the selection of deployment sites from the alternatives considered in the Environmental Impact Statement. This decision will be based on the analysis of the potential ballistic missile threat to the United States, technical readiness of the NMD system for deployment, projected cost to build and operate the NMD system, and other factors including potential environmental impacts of deploying and operating the NMD system. The Environmental Impact Statement will provide the U.S. Government with the information necessary to properly account for the environmental impacts. At this time, a deployment decision is not anticipated prior to the year 2000. The decision that would be involved in deploying the NMD system is summarized in Figure 1.

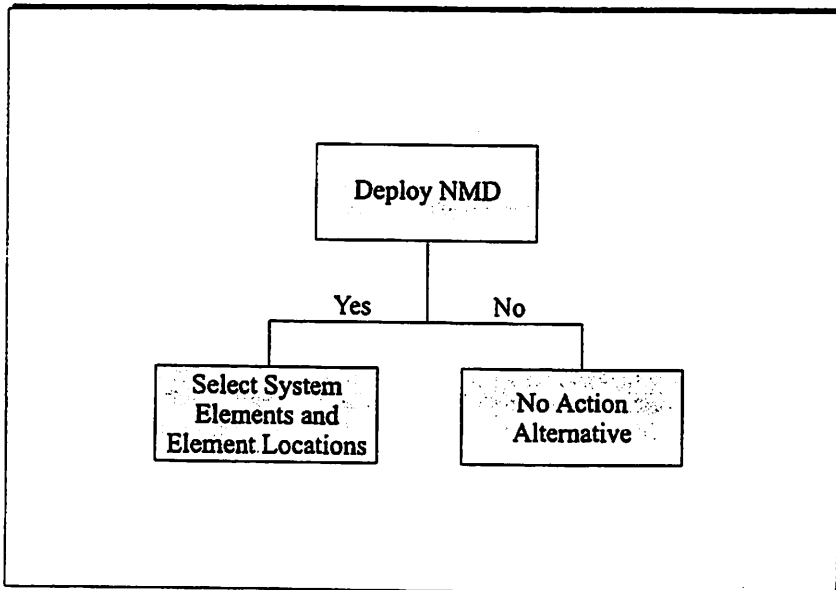


Figure 1

PROPOSED ACTION

The Proposed Action is to develop and deploy an NMD system. Table 1 provides the potential number of NMD elements required for system deployment.

Table 1: NMD Deployment Element Requirements

NMD Element	NMD Element Requirement
GBI	1 site with 20 silos
BMC2	1 site
IFICS	Up to 14 sites
XBR	1 site
UEWR	Up to 5 sites using existing systems
Defense Support Program/SBIRS	Space based detection system

The potential deployment locations for each NMD element are as follows:

Ground-Based Interceptor (GBI)

- Clear AS, Alaska
- Eielson AFB, Alaska
- Fort Greely, Alaska
- Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska
- Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
 - Missile Site Radar (MSR)

Battle Management, Command and Control (BMC2)

- Clear AS, Alaska
- Eielson AFB, Alaska
- Fort Greely, Alaska
- Yukon Training Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska
- Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
 - Missile Site Radar (MSR)

In Flight Interceptor Communications System (IFICS)

- Alaska
- North Dakota

X-Band Radar (XBR)

- Eareckson AS, Alaska
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
 - Cavalier AS
 - Missile Site Radar (MSR)
 - Remote Sprint Launch Site (RSL) 1
 - Remote Sprint Launch Site (RSL) 2
 - Remote Sprint Launch Site (RSL) 4



FACT SHEET



NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE (NMD) DEPLOYMENT CONCEPT

NMD OBJECTIVES

The primary mission is defense of the United States against a threat of a limited strategic ballistic missile attack from a rogue nation. Such a system would also provide some capability against a small accidental or unauthorized launch of strategic ballistic missiles from more nuclear capable states. The means to accomplish the NMD mission are as follows:

- Field an NMD system that meets the ballistic missile threat at the time of a deployment decision.
- Detect and track the launch of enemy ballistic missile(s).
- Continue tracking of ballistic missile(s) using ground based radars.
- Engage and destroy the ballistic missile warhead above the earth's atmosphere by force of impact.

NMD DEPLOYMENT CONCEPT

The NMD system would consist of five elements: Ground Based Interceptors (GBIs); Battle Management, Command, Control, and Communications (BMC3), which includes the Battle Management, Command, and Control (BMC2), communication lines, and In-Flight Interceptor Communications System (IFICS) as subelements; X-Band Radars (XBRs); Upgraded Early Warning Radar (UEWR); and Defense Support Program satellites/Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS). All elements of the NMD system would work together to respond to a ballistic missile directed against the United States as shown in Figure 1.

NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE ELEMENTS

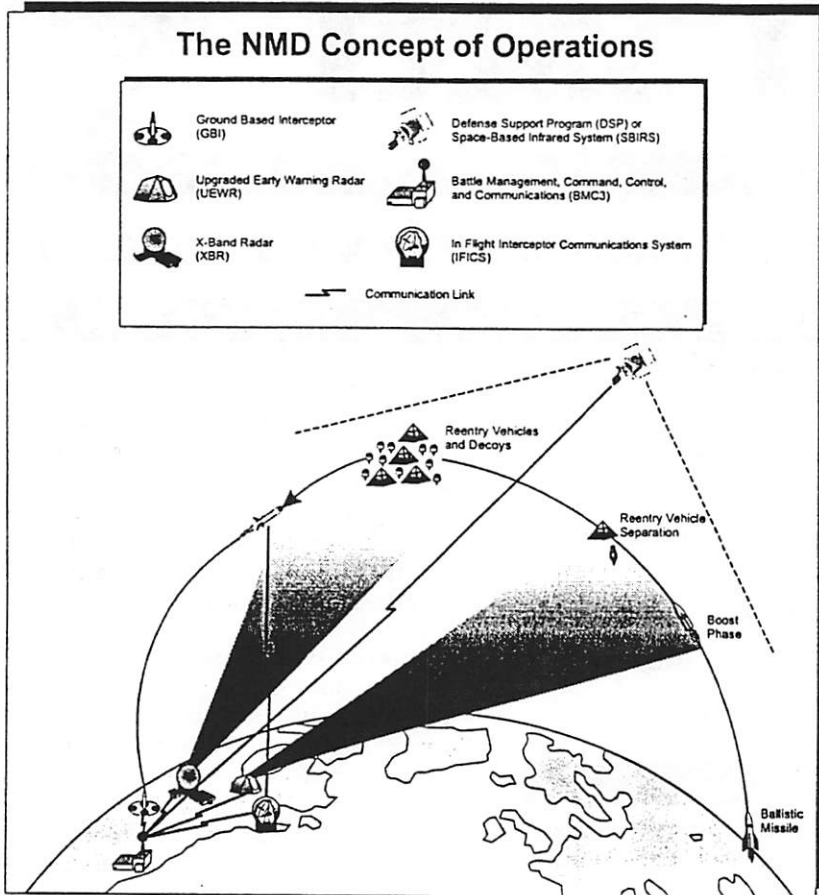
The *GBI* is the "weapon" of the NMD system. Its mission is to intercept incoming ballistic missile warheads outside the earth's atmosphere (exoatmospheric) and destroy them by force of the impact. During flight, the *GBI* is sent information from the NMD BMC2 through the IFICS to update the location of the incoming ballistic missile, enabling the *GBI* onboard sensor system to identify and home-in on the assigned target. The *GBI* element would include the interceptor and associated launch and support equipment, silos, facilities, and personnel. The *GBI* missile has two main components: an EKV and solid propellant boosters. The *GBI* would be a dormant missile that would remain in the underground launch silo until launch. Launches would occur only in defense of the United States from a ballistic missile attack. There would be no flight testing of the missiles at the NMD deployment site.

The *BMC2*, a subelement of the BMC3 element, is the "brains" of the NMD system. In the event of a launch against the United States, the NMD system would be controlled and operated through the *BMC2* subelement. Surveillance satellites and ground radars locate targets and communicate tracking

information to battle managers, which process the information and communicate target assignments to interceptors. The *BMC2* subelement operations would consist mostly of data processing and management functions associated with the NMD system and function as the centralized point for readiness, monitoring, and maintenance.

The *IFICS* is a subelement of the BMC3 element and would be geographically distributed ground stations that provide communications links to the *GBI* for in-flight target and status information between the *GBI* and the *BMC2*. The *IFICS* would consist of a radio transmitter/receiver enclosed in a 1-meter (3-foot) diameter inflatable radome adjacent to the equipment shelters.

The *XBRs* would be ground based, multi-function radars. For NMD, they would perform tracking, discrimination, and kill assessments of incoming ballistic missiles. The radars use high frequency and advanced radar signal processing technology to improve target resolution, which permits the radar to more accurately discriminate between closely-spaced objects. The radar would provide data from earlier phases of a ballistic missile trajectory and real-time continuous tracking data to the *BMC2*. The site would include a radar mounted on its pedestal and associated control and maintenance facility, a power generation facility, and a 150-meter (492-foot) controlled area. The radar would be radiating during a ballistic missile threat, testing, exercises, training, or when supporting collateral missions such as tracking space debris or a Space Shuttle mission.



sensor satellites would acquire and track ballistic missiles throughout their trajectory. This information would provide the earliest possible trajectory estimate to the BMC2 subelement.

Figure 1

The *UEWRs* are phased-array surveillance radars used to detect and track ballistic missiles targeted at the United States. Software upgrades to these existing early warning radars would provide the capability to support NMD surveillance requirements.

Existing *Defense Support Program* satellites provide the U.S. early-warning satellite capability. The satellites are comparatively simple, inertially fixed, geosynchronous earth orbit satellites with an unalterable scan pattern. *SBIRS* would replace the *Defense Support Program* satellites sometime in the next decade. NMD would use whichever system is in place when a deployment decision is made and can use a combination of the two if the transition is still in progress.

SBIRS would be an element that future NMD systems would utilize. *SBIRS* is currently being developed by the Air Force independently of NMD as part of the early warning satellite system upgrade which would replace the *Defense Support Program* satellites. For the NMD program, the *SBIRS* constellation of