European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA) Ballistic Missile Defense

- A Technical Overview -



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Missile Defense Conference, Moscow, Russia

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European Phased Adaptive Approach To Developing And Deploying Missile Defense





Approved for Public Release 12- MDA-6723 (30 April 2012)



EPAA U.S. Aegis Missile Defense

- SM-3 Interceptors Cannot Intercept Russian ICBMs -



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EPAA Ballistic Missile Defense System – Incapable of Intercepting Russian ICBMs –



Russian ICBMs launched towards U.S. travel on Polar trajectories and are too fast for deployed SM-3 to intercept either ICBM itself or reentry vehicle



Perceptions and Facts About EPAA Missile Defense System

- Perception: Russian ICBM and SLBM trajectories to U.S. pass through EPAA defense design
 - Fact: Few Russian strategic missile trajectories pass near EPAA assets
 - Fact: Majority of trajectories to U.S. take a Polar route, north and east of EPAA assets
- <u>Perception</u>: Launch of missile defense interceptors occurs well before burnout of the targeted ICBM
 - <u>Fact:</u> Fire control solution only generated for coasting/non-powered object on ballistic trajectory
 - <u>Fact:</u> Interceptor launch will not occur until approximately 60 seconds (at earliest) after threat missile's powered flight (boost) ends, and after initial ballistic trajectory track is established
- Perception: Boost phase intercept of ICBMs and SLBMs possible by EPAA assets
 - Fact: During powered flight (boost) threat missile trajectory is not ballistic
 - <u>Fact:</u> Intercept is not possible during boost phase due to unobtainable fire control solution
 - Fact: Inadequate interceptor thrust and divert
- <u>Perception:</u> Aegis Ashore in Poland, close to Russia, makes it easier to intercept Russian ICBMs
 - Fact: Intercept is impossible due to delays inherent in missile defense engagement:
 - Threat burnout must occur before fire control solution development
 - Interceptor launch and fly-out must occur before kill vehicle deployment and activation
 - Fact: Error basket (threat missile location uncertainty) too large
 - Fact: Sufficient interceptor divert capability not attainable for uncertain threat missile position
 - Fact: Fire control solutions result in tail chase; interceptor closest approach 100s of kilometers



- Addresses the growing ballistic missile threat to NATO countries in Europe and U.S. homeland
- Not oriented towards Russian Federation
- Not capable of intercepting Russian ICBMs or SLBMs
- Cannot engage boosting ICBMs or SLBMs

EPAA Capabilities Do Not Undermine Strategic Stability – Supported By Technical Analysis –

