The National Missile Defense system under development by the United States would be ineffective against even limited ballistic missile attacks from emerging missile states. Moreover, its deployment would increase nuclear dangers from Russia and China, and impede cooperation by these countries in international efforts to control the proliferation of long-range ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction. The United States should reconsider its options for countering the threats posed by long-range ballistic missiles and shelve the current NMD plans as unworkable and counterproductive.

National Intelligence Estimate, which is still valid, concluded that (US National Intelligence Council 1999): Some of these countermeasures would be effective against the current US ballistic missile defense system, and the trove of potential countermeasures is so deep that the offense could easily continue to keep ahead of the defense (Sessler et al. 2000). ... Once we estimate the temperature of an object, it is also possible to estimate the emissivity-area product as a function of measured or estimated values [16,18]. This is given by

\[ T = \frac{\text{Area} \times \text{Emissivity}}{\text{Temperature}} \]

The National Missile Defense Act calls for developing a missile-defense system that could protect the United States from an attack by a handful of nuclear armed ballistic missiles (ballistic missile Defenses). It is important to realize the proposed NMD would not be designed to protect against an all out nuclear attack featuring hundreds of missiles. President Clinton is expected to make a decision on whether or not to deploy a NMD as early as June of 2000. Is a NMD really an effective countermeasure to these new threats? Currently, there is no rogue-state long range missile threat it is unlikely that one will emerge in the next decade (Mendelsohn 30). Russia's view on the United State's construction of a missile defense system is naturally not a By testing the capabilities of U.S. interceptors against realistic targets including countermeasures the ability of the U.S. to respond to an enemy missile attack would be greatly enhanced. There are two primary types of countermeasures, penetration aids or penaids and inherent countermeasures. Penaids are items that are added to the missile to increase the chance of the missile reaching its intended target. Penaids could be housed in the target reentry vehicle separation module. One penaids technique is for an offensive missile to carry, in addition to the actual target reentry vehicle, severa

The Authors Reply: We agree with many of the points that James Lindsay and Michael O’Hanlon make in their response to our article. Where we disagree, is it mostly on judgments of the likelihood of various scenarios and ...

Engineering Consent: Peenemunde, National Socialism, and the V-2 Missile, 1924-1945
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