

## Concerns

The arms race is moving into space. The Pentagon's Space Command has publicly stated that it intends "to control space in order to protect U.S. interests and investments." During the Persian Gulf War in the early 90's the U.S. became convinced that whoever controls space will be able to project force "in space, from space and into space." As we have seen in Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Iraq, by using current space technologies the U.S. is able to identify and target any "enemy" that it wishes. Through this "full spectrum dominance" the U.S. intends to control the Earth and beyond to the benefit of corporate globalization. Thus the Space Command's logo reads "Master of Space."

## History of Missile Defense

During the Reagan/Bush years the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) was funded at over \$3 billion per year. Following the election of former President Clinton, one of his first acts was to declare that Star Wars was dead. In place of SDI, Clinton created the Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) program and moved the Star Wars funding into BMD. George W. Bush changed its name to the Missile Defense Agency (MDA). Since the 1950's hundreds of billions of our tax dollars have been wasted on space weapons research and development. Bush's proposed '08 budget for MDA is nearly \$11 billion.

## What Is Missile Defense?

Bush's MDA is made up of three components: Boost phase, Midcourse and Terminal systems. **Boost phase systems** (formerly called Theatre Missile Defense) would be deployed in regions of "conflict" and hit nuclear weapons immediately after they were launched, in their Boost Phase. The Army, Navy, and Air Force are each running testing programs for boost phase systems. Bush is planning to deploy Boost Phase systems in the Middle East and in Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea which will anger China and push them to increase their force of nuclear weapons to counter U.S. moves. The resulting arms race would only benefit the weapons corporations.

**Midcourse systems** (formerly called National Missile Defense) would hit missiles further into space during their midcourse of flight. Midcourse is the program to "protect" the North American continent and already interceptors have been placed in Alaska and California. Cost estimates for the Midcourse systems are now well over \$60 billion.

## Working to stop the nuclearization and weaponization of space

**Terminal systems** are battlefield launched systems which would strike "offending" missiles as they descended toward the target. These systems include PAC-3, Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS), Navy Area, Theater High Altitude Air Defense (THAAD) and international programs like Israel's Arrow system.

## Bush's Deployment Decision

Following the U.S. pullout of the ABM Treaty with Russia, George W. Bush deployed "missile defense" systems at Ft. Greely, Alaska and Vandenberg AFB, CA. Radar upgrades in California, Cape Cod, Greenland, United Kingdom and new radar construction in Alaska have been necessary to support the expansion program. Post-deployment testing of these systems will continue at \$100 million per test at Vandenberg AFB,

is truly a Trojan horse, a way to get public support for the deployment of offensive systems in space. Space Command's Strategic Plan published in late 2006 states clearly: "Air Force doctrine views air, space, and information as key ingredients for dominating the battlespace and ensuring superiority... Today, control of [space] means superiority in information and significant force enhancement. Tomorrow, ownership may mean instant engagement anywhere in the world... Planners should consider... the capability to deliver attacks from space..."

## Will Star Wars Work?

Missile defense proponents are trying to create hysteria by claiming that "rogue states" are poised to attack the U.S. with nuclear warheads. They name North Korea, Iran, China, and Iraq



CA and Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific. Meanwhile, the U.S. is pushing Poland and the Czech Republic to allow radar and "missile defense" deployments on their lands, provoking Russia and increasing regional tensions. Public opinion in these countries is opposed, while the right wing governments will likely acquiesce under U.S. pressure.

## Offense or Defense?

The U.S. sells Star Wars as "defensive." The Space Command, committed to "control and domination," has other plans. Missile defense

(before we occupied it) as probable suspects. It seems unlikely that any "enemy" would be foolish enough to launch a nuclear strike at the U.S. considering the fact that the attacking nation could be overwhelmed in return by massive U.S. military power. The more likely scenario for an attack by a terrorist would be a suitcase or truck bomb or an airplane—something that an expensive Star Wars system could not prevent. There are also many technical means to fool a "missile defense" system, including using decoy missiles, or simply inundating it with enough incoming missiles to make it useless. The best defense for

the U.S. is to negotiate and honor international treaties limiting the proliferation of nuclear weapons and space-based weapons.

## Is NASA Involved in Star Wars?

Yes. There is growing evidence that many of NASA's so-called "civilian" missions are running Star Wars tests for the Pentagon. One example is the Deep Space Program Science Experiment (DSPSE), the first of a series of technology demonstrations jointly sponsored by the Pentagon and NASA. Launched in early 1994, its principle objective was to test Star Wars sensors and component technologies for the next generation of military spacecraft. NASA told the public that the mission's purpose was to map the surface of the Moon. We are seeing more and more of these "dual use" missions as the Pentagon takes over the space program.

## What about the U. N.?

Russia, Canada, and China have asked the U.N. Commission on Disarmament to create an ad hoc committee in order to negotiate a global ban on weapons in space. The U.S. refuses to participate in such talks. Neither Russia nor China wishes to enter a dangerous and expensive space arms race. Each year, the U.N. General Assembly proposes a global ban on weapons in space; the U.S. and Israel consistently block this resolution.

## How Does Nuclear Power

## Fit into Star Wars?

Weapons in space will require enormous amounts of power. Such weapons will likely be nuclear-powered. One Air Force study entitled *New World Vistas: Air & Space Power for the 21st Century*, states: "A natural technology to enable high power is nuclear power in space... Setting the emotional issues of nuclear power aside, this technology offers a viable alternative for large amounts of power in space." The space-based laser, a "follow-on" technology to missile defense, could require nuclear reactors to provide the massive power it would need to hit "enemy" satellites in space or targets on the ground. NASA is now vigorously promoting the nuclear rocket to Mars (Project Prometheus), with nuclear reactor engines. Nuclear powered bases on the moon are also on NASA's drawing board. Bush is spending billions on the Nuclear Systems Initiative that will dramatically escalate the numbers of nuclear launches in the coming years.

## What's Really Behind Star Wars?

In the U.S. Space Command document called Vision for 2020, the Pentagon states that because of corporate "globalization of the world economy" there will be a widening gap between the "haves and have-nots." Space "superiority," the document says, will emerge as an "essential element of battlefield success" as the Space Command becomes the military instrument by which challenges to corporate control are suppressed in regions around the world. Vision for 2020 also states the Space Command will protect new "interests and investments" in space as aerospace corporations begin to mine the sky. As in the days of Columbus, NASA is now discovering precious minerals on planetary bodies. Like the Spanish Armada, the Space Command will secure these riches for the aerospace industry. Weapons corporations such as Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Northrop Grumman, and Raytheon stand to make billions from Star Wars. Social spending will have to be cut even more to pay for it. In the end the people of the Earth will become less secure.

## About the Global Network

Since 1992, the Global Network (GN) has been working to educate and activate people around the world to stop the nuclearization and weaponization of space. Today the GN has 140 affiliate groups located on virtually every continent of the world. Join our effort to ensure that the arms race does not move into space. You or your organization can become a member of the GN for an annual contribution on a sliding scale of \$10 - \$100. With your membership you will receive a copy of our newsletter, Space Alert! (Contributions to the GN are tax-deductible.) Check our website for a complete list of our group affiliates.

## What you can do

- 1) Learn more about this issue and how local institutions in your community (military, aerospace corporations, academia, NASA, DoE) are involved in the nuclearization and weaponization of space.
- 2) Regularly check the Global Network website at: [www.space4peace.org](http://www.space4peace.org)
- 3) Organize people in your community to write letters, hold educational events and protests on the space issue. Help build pressure on Bush and Congress to stop funding Star Wars research and development. Invite a Global Network speaker to your community.
- 4) Organize a local event in early October, in solidarity with our annual **Keep Space for Peace Week: International Days of Protest Against the Militarization of Space**. Contact us for more information.
- 5) Plan to attend our annual spring **GN International Space Organizing Conference**. Contact us for the location and details.

## Resources

- **Order** one of our **Space Organizers' Packets** and we will send you a full set of documents (including **Vision for 2020**), news clips, and other useful articles. Send \$7 (includes S/H) to the GN.
- Order a signed copy of Bruce Gagnon's book **Come Together Right Now** which chronicles his many years of organizing with a host of good stories. Send \$16 (includes S/H).
- **Order** Loring Wirbel's book **Star Wars: U.S. Tools of Space Supremacy**, which takes a fresh look at the role of space as an enabler of the Pentagon plans for endless war. Send \$12 (includes S/H).
- **Purchase** one of our latest one-hour videos: **War from Space: Voices of the Global Network** documents the GN's space events at the Vancouver World Peace Forum; **The Necessity of the Conversion of the Military Industrial Complex** is a lecture Bruce Gagnon gave in Chautauqua, N.Y. Send \$13 each (includes S/H).
- **Get one** of our bumper stickers for your car. Order either **Keep Space for Peace or No Weapons in Space**. Send \$1 each or 12 for \$10.
- **Order** the **No Star Wars** music CD (various artists/space songs to benefit GN) for \$5 (includes S/H).

## MEMBERSHIP

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Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for membership in the Global Network. (Please pay what you can best afford within the sliding scale of \$10 - \$100. Membership is open to both organizations and individuals.)

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the packet/stickers/book/video/Music CD.

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of this brochure and I will help distribute them.

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help cover your costs.

Make checks payable and mail to:

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# Keep Space for Peace

No Star Wars  
No Nuclear Rocket  
Fund Human Needs



**Global Network Against Weapons  
& Nuclear Power in Space**

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