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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 105185A
3 January 2019

JOHN GREENEWALD
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SUITE 1203
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Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 16 September 2018 for the Intellipedia records on the "Ballistic Missile Early Warning System." As stated in our initial response to you, dated 24 September 2018, your request was assigned Case Number 105185. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. There are no assessable fees for this request. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

For your information, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intelink. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search across the three levels of Intellipedia and located documents that are responsive to your request. The documents are enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the documents.

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities, in this case, internal URLs. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We have determined that such information exists in these records and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosures in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from

disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you requested against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be in sent via U.S. postal mail, fax, or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

NSA FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Road STE 6932
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

The facsimile number is (443)479-3612; the email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.

- It must be postmarked or delivered electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial of requested information was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

For further assistance or to discuss your request, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. OGIS contact information is Office of Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail: ogis@nara.gov; main: 202-741-5770; toll free: 1-877-684-6448; or fax: 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,



for

JOHN R. CHAPMAN
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encls:
a/s

(U) Ballistic missile early warning system

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From Intellipedia

Ballistic missile early warning system — An electronic system for providing detection and early warning of attack by enemy intercontinental ballistic missiles. Also called **BMEWS**. (JP 3-14)^[1]
Source: Joint Publication 5-0

References

1. JP 1-02, DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms, amended through Aug 2012

[Redacted]

Retrieved from [Redacted]

Category: Military Terms

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(U) Ballistic Missile Early Warning System

UNCLASSIFIED

From Intellipedia



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The United States Air Force **Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS)** was the first operational ballistic missile detection radar. The original system was built in 1959 and could provide long-range warning of a ballistic missile attack over the polar region of the northern hemisphere. They also provided satellite tracking data. The three installations are:

- Site I- A United States Air Force facility at Thule Air Base, Greenland, (

76.569° N 68.318° W) operated by the 12th Space Warning Squadron.[1] (<http://www.thule.af.mil/>)

- Site II - A second USAF facility at Clear Air Force Station, Alaska, (

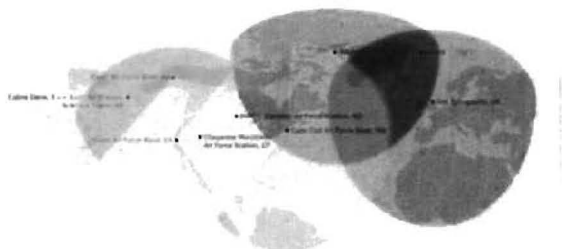
64°17'19"N, 149°11'22"W) [2] (<https://www.clear.af.mil/mission.htm>)

- Site III - A Royal Air Force facility of Fylingdales, in the United Kingdom (

54.3616° N 0.6697° W)

The three facilities operated their original 1950s vintage radars for more than four decades, but all have been upgraded with more modern phased array radars. The facility at Clear Air Force Station was the last to be upgraded, and now operates a PAVE PAWS radar that was moved from Texas in 2001.[3] (<http://www.fas.org/spp/military/program/track/pavepaws.htm>) Information received from the BMEWS radars is forwarded to Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, Colorado where it is coordinated with data from other sensors, including other PAVE PAWS sites.

The original sites used two types of radars, the L band AN/FPS-50, with three fence antennas for initial detection, each 165 feet tall and 400 feet wide, and an AN/FPS-92 fully steerable tracking dish, 85 feet in diameter, installed in a large radome. One fence antenna covered a 40 degree sector of the horizon, for a total site coverage of 120 degrees. A prototype of BMEWS, located in Trinidad, began providing surveillance and tracking of ballistic missiles by 1958, and went operational on February 4, 1959, to gather data on missiles fired at the Atlantic Missile Range, as well as satellites and meteors. The full BMEWS radar network became operational in the early 1960s. Each site had dual IBM 7094 computers for signal processing and impact prediction.



Coverage of BMEWS is shown in red, complementing the coverage provided by the PAVE PAWS system in blue. Coverage for both systems extends over the North Pole and both report back to Cheyenne Mountain Air Base in Colorado.

Doc ID: 6647433

The Soviet Union developed a Fractional Orbital Bombardment System in part to counteract the network of sensors covering the northern hemisphere, including BMEWS, which was only able to point in a fixed direction. Defense Support Program (DSP) early warning satellites were developed in part to counter this threat.

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- 1 Moon alarm
- 2 Upgrades
- 3 See also
- 4 External links

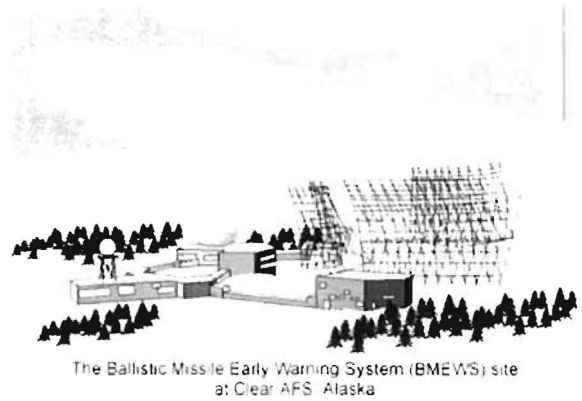
Moon alarm



Four of the original AN/FPS-50 detection radars used at Thule, prior to the upgrade to the AN/FPS-120.

Fylingdales sites were upgraded with phased array radars in the 1990s. BMEWS 3, located in RAF Fylingdales, was upgraded by Raytheon/Cossor AeroSpace and Control Data Corporation at a cost of US \$100M. The new antenna was a 3 faced phased array antenna providing 360 degrees of coverage. The embedded computer was a CDC-Cyber running JOVIAL. The Clear, Alaska site was upgraded in 2001 with a PAVE PAWS radar that was originally located at El Dorado Air Station, Texas. The phased array radars operate in the 420-450 MHz (UHF) frequency range.

Along with the PAVE PAWS radar sites at Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts and Beale Air Force Base, California and the Perimeter Acquisition Radar Attack Characterization System (PARCS) radar at Cavalier AFS, North Dakota, the BMEWS sites provide continual ground-based missile warning for the United States and Canada, with satellite surveillance as a secondary role. [5] (<https://www.clear.af.mil>)

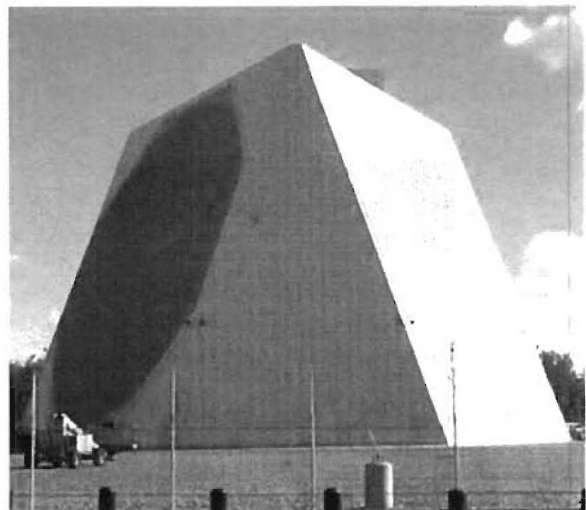


Original 3 AN/FPS-50 detection radars (fence antennas) and single AN/FPS-92 tracking radar (large radome)

On October 5th, 1960, the moonrise occurred directly in the path of the Thule detection radar, producing a strong signal return. While the computer system never generated an impact prediction, the large amount of data caused enough concern that Cheyenne Mountain closed its blast doors for several hours.[4] (<http://www.mos.org/exhibits/ComputingRevolution/wcgb/3a.html>) The equipment was subsequently modified to reject moon returns based on their long (2 second) delay.

Upgrades

The Thule and



PAVE PAWS Phased array Radar that replaced BMEWS at Clear AFS, Alaska.

See also

- Nuclear weapons and the United States
- PAVE PAWS
- Specific US radar and locations
 - Cobra Dane, Eareckson Air Station, Alaska
 - Thule Air Base, Greenland
 - Clear Air Force Station, Alaska
 - RAF Fylingdales, United Kingdom
 - Cape Cod Air Force Station, Massachusetts
 - Beale Air Force Base, California
 - Cavalier Air Force Station, North Dakota



Air Force technicians work at tracking monitors in the Tactical Operations Room on the Thule BMEWS.

External links

- Historic American Engineering Record (Library of Congress) (<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/hhh.ak0486>) (HAER AK-30-A) - Clear Air Force Station, Ballistic Missile Early Warning System Site II
- A detailed personal account of BMEWS (<http://www.bwcinet.com/thule/1intro.htm>)
- More information with pictures (<http://www.globalsecurity.org/space/systems/bmews.htm>)
- Program overview from 1997 (<http://www.fas.org/spp/military/program/nssrm/initiatives/bmews.htm>)

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(U) Missile Defense News Digest - April 2008

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From Intellipedia



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Israel says will connect to US missile early warning system

Agence France Presse April 14

Jerusalem - The United States has agreed to connect Israel to its ballistic missile early warning system to warn of any missile attack from arch foe Iran, a senior Israeli defence official said on Monday.

"Israel asked the US to connect to its ballistic missile early warning system as part of its efforts to defend itself from missile attacks, first of all from Iran," the official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"The US has agreed to the request," he said.

Israel first benefited from the worldwide radar system, which was built in the 1959, during the 1991 Gulf War when Iraq fired dozens of missiles at the Jewish state.

It was put in action again during the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq.

Israel claims that Iran's controversial nuclear programme and its recent ballistic missile test firing are aimed at developing an atomic weapon, a claim denied by Tehran.

The Jewish state considers Iran's Islamic regime an existential threat after President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad's repeated call for Israel's destruction.

Defence Ministry Director General Pinkhas Bukhris and top ministry adviser Amos Gilad have been in Washington twice in recent months to discuss military cooperation between Israel and its chief ally.

The US embassy in Israel did not immediately comment on the report.

European Missile Defense

- Press Guidance & Statements
- Missile Defense & Russia
- U.S.-NATO Missile Defense
- Congressional Testimony
- InfoCentral (includes MD resources)
- State/DoD Missile Defense Brochure (PDF)
- Archives
- Calendar of Events (TBD)
- Talking Points (Not Yet Available)

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Tauscher Plans To Attach Strings To Missile Defense Funds

Congress Daily AM by Megan Scully **April 10**

As the Bush administration nears a formal agreement with the Czech Republic on the U.S. military's European missile defense plans, a key House lawmaker said Wednesday that she would again seek to restrict funding for the effort unless Poland gives the green light to the plans.

During a brief interview, House Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee Chairwoman Ellen Tauscher, D-Calif., said she does not want to commit the next administration to fielding missile defenses in Europe unless both countries central to the plans formally agree to host them.

Tauscher, whose subcommittee will mark up its portion of the FY09 defense authorization bill in the next several weeks, succeeded last year in attaching language to the annual measure that prohibited funding to build or activate European missile defense sites until the countries give their formal approval.

The Pentagon has been able to use FY08 funds to buy 10 missile interceptors, however.

"Unless both are ratified, then this is still an issue that is not resolved," Tauscher said. "I think it's safe to say that if nothing has changed, then there is no reason for Congress to change its opinion, either," she added.

The administration has been working to build international support for its plans to build an early-missile warning radar site in the Czech Republic and erect a launch site for missile interceptors in Poland.

On Wednesday, U.S. and Czech negotiators began another round of talks on the radar site in the hope of wrapping up discussions soon. If all goes as expected, Secretary of State Rice would travel to the country next month to sign an agreement allowing the United States to build the radar site near Prague. But talks with Poland, which wants any agreement with the United States to include military aid, are moving more slowly.

"I know that they [the administration and Poland] are in significant negotiations," Tauscher said. "I know that there are a lot of intergovernment conversations, but these have to be ratified."

House Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee ranking member Terry Everett, R-Ala., said he would likely agree to continue the types of restrictions outlined in last year's bill. But he also said he may try to tweak the language. Tauscher last year criticized the administration's efforts to build a long-range missile defense system in Europe and has stressed the need to work with NATO to incorporate defenses against any short- and medium-range ballistic missiles that pose a potential threat to the continent from Iran.

Earlier this month, she applauded the decision by NATO leaders during a conference in Bucharest to assert their commitment to an alliance-wide anti-missile shield that would protect against a wide range of ballistic missiles.

"I'm encouraged to hear NATO leaders, including President Bush, formally recognize the need for a comprehensive NATO effort to better protect the U.S., our service men and women abroad and our allies against a growing missile threat," Tauscher said on April 3.

Russia, meanwhile, continues to oppose U.S. plans to build missile defenses in Europe, citing security

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concerns. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin emerged from a meeting last weekend still divided over the missile defense issue. Putin remarked after the meeting that he would be open to a global missile defense system built by the United States, Russia and European countries.

"This is the first time I've heard Putin step forward and say he would be interested in this common defense shield strategy," Tauscher said. "That's good news."

Czech, US Officials Open Talks To Finalize Missile Defense

Dow Jones International News April 9

Czech and U.S. negotiators started a new round of talks Wednesday to finalize a complementary missile defense treaty, the Defense Ministry said.

The talks were focused on issues including the legal status of U.S. soldiers deployed at the planned radar station near Prague, as well as tax issues.

"Maybe we shall need one more round of talks, but this could also be the last one," ministry spokesman Jan Pejsek said.

The deal is based on two separate treaties that still need parliamentary approval.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was planning to visit the Czech capital next month to sign the main treaty allowing the U.S. to build an anti-missile base southwest of Prague.

The radar base would be linked with 10 interceptor missiles that would be based in neighboring Poland.

Russia opposes the plan, seeing it as a threat close to its borders.

Antimissile Milestone (Editorial)

The Wall Street Journal April 8

At their joint news conference in the Black Sea town of Sochi on Sunday, President Bush and Vladimir Putin talked agreeably about U.S. plans to provide a missile defense for Europe and U.S.-Russian cooperation even as they acknowledged differences. Earlier in the week, NATO endorsed the missile shield. Somewhere the Gipper is smiling.

Twenty-five years after his "Star Wars" speech, Ronald Reagan's vision of a defensive shield against ballistic missiles is fast becoming a reality. The U.S. already has a rudimentary missile defense in place for the homeland and is now proposing to extend protection to Europe with a "third site" that would position a radar in the Czech Republic and interceptors in Poland.

But the biggest transformation has been intellectual. No one is talking any longer about whether there's a threat from rogue nations with ballistic missiles or whether defenses are technologically possible. Those are givens. The U.S.-Russia declaration said, "Both sides expressed their interest in creating a system for responding to potential missile threats." The NATO communique spoke of the "increasing threat to Allies' forces, territory and populations."

According to the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, some 30 countries have ballistic missiles. On the Continent, the biggest threat is from Iran, which aims to be a nuclear power and already has missiles capable of hitting most European capitals. The U.S. has offered to share technical information with Russia

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about the European site. Details still have to be worked out, but Sunday's declaration that "such measures will be important and useful in assuaging Russian concerns" is an implicit acknowledgment by Moscow that the site is going forward.

In Washington, the political battle over missile defense has also changed for the better. Democrats still raise objections to R&D on space-based defenses, even as China tests antisatellite weapons without warning. If a defense is necessary, however, it's hard to make a case for why it ought to be limited to earth when the next steps forward are likely to require an expanded presence in space.

The proposed airborne laser also comes in for occasional political hits. The laser, which would shoot down missiles in the boost phase before decoys are released, is sometimes deemed unrealistic. But given the string of successful laser tests to date, and the overall success of missile defense technology, the critics are losing credibility.

Meanwhile, NATO approval ought to silence Democrats who claimed that the third site created "divisions" among our European allies. In the Pacific, agreements on missile defense with Japan, Australia and South Korea are part of the Bush Administration's vision of a missile defense that extends world-wide. Countries are lining up to get under the U.S. missile umbrella.

None of this progress would have been possible if the U.S. were still a party to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. Democrats howled when Mr. Bush announced in December 2001 that the U.S. would exercise its right to withdraw. A President Gore or Kerry would still be repeating President Clinton's mantra that the treaty is the "cornerstone of strategic stability."

Pulling out of the treaty and investing in missile defense is an unsung success of the Bush Presidency. The U.S. and its allies are safer for it. NATO and President Putin understand that, and it would be nice to see Democrats finally go on record with the same acknowledgment.

Putin Still Against US-run Missile Shield

Financial Times By Neil Buckley April 7

The US and Russia said on Sunday they were interested in creating a joint defence system with Europe against missile threats - though Russia warned it still opposed plans for a US-run missile shield in central Europe.

The declaration came after US president George W. Bush and Vladimir Putin, his Russian counterpart, made limited progress towards bridging divisions between the two countries at a farewell heart-to-heart at Mr Putin's holiday home on the Black Sea. Both will step down in the coming months.

Amid bonhomie in front of the cameras, the two leaders signed a nine-page strategic framework aimed at calming recent tensions. Reaffirming that the cold war had been consigned to history, the two presidents made clear they wanted to bequeath a more stable relationship to their successors.

Mr Bush held a separate meeting with Dmitry Medvedev, the Russian president-elect and Mr Putin's hand-picked successor, and declared himself "impressed" with a man he described as a "smart fellow".

Deep differences remained, however, on key issues, above all US plans to site elements of its planned missile defence shield in Poland and the Czech Republic. Moscow does not accept US claims that the system is aimed at "rogue" states such as Iran, saying it could undermine Russia's strategic deterrent.

"Our fundamental attitude to the US plans has not changed," Mr Putin told a joint press conference at his residence at Bocharov Ruchei, in Sochi. "[But] some progress has been made. Our concerns have finally been heard."

Mr Putin's remarks referred to offers by the US to give Russian officers access to the sites, and not to activate the system until Iran tests an intercontinental missile capable of reaching Europe and the US.

"We've got more work to do to convince the Russian side that the system is not aimed at Russia," Mr Bush acknowledged. Showing irritation with a question over whether the two leaders had simply "kicked the can down the road" on the missile defence issue, the US president insisted important progress had been made.

"I have been deeply involved in this issue and I know how far it's come," he added.

After Nato's European leaders endorsed the US missile defence plans at a summit in Bucharest last week, the two presidents also said they backed a broader defence system.

"Both sides expressed their interest in creating a system for responding to potential missile threats in which Russia and the United States and Europe will participate as equal partners," the strategic framework document said.

As well as intensifying dialogue on missile defence cooperation "both bilaterally and multilaterally", the two sides pledged to step up joint work to resolve other issues.

These include Russia's bitter opposition to Nato membership for neighbouring Ukraine and Georgia. Though Russia succeeded in persuading the alliance not to offer "membership action plans", a gateway to membership, to the two Soviet republics last week, it was irritated by suggestions that such a step could still be taken by the end of the year.

The two sides said they would attempt to find a "package solution" to breathe life back into the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty. Russia suspended its participation in what is seen as a cornerstone of the post-cold war security architecture in protest over the failure by other countries to ratify an amended version.

They also said they would hold high-level dialogue on the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces treaty, a 1987 treaty banning the US and Russia from having nuclear and conventional missiles with ranges of 500-5,500km. Russia has argued its hands are now unfairly tied by the treaty, since other countries on its borders are developing similar missiles.

The US and Russia agreed to analyse "current and future" medium-range missile threats and look at options for dealing with them.

In Bush-Putin talks, Russian shift on US missiles is seen: analysts

Agence France Presse 6 April

SOCHI, Russia, April 6, 2008 (AFP) - There were no bells and whistles, no champagne toasts, not even the modest flourish of a signed agreement. But in quiet tones padded with caveat, Russia on Sunday dropped its strident objection to a US missile defence system, analysts said, with Presidents George W. Bush and Vladimir Putin instead talking about how they could work together on the project.

Though room for manoeuvre remains wide, Russia used a farewell summit on the shores of the Black Sea

to change tack on the missile plan, a shift with potentially monumental implications for US-Russian ties and European security.

The first sign of change Sunday came when Putin and Bush spoke to reporters following what officials described as an enjoyable dinner the night before, followed by serious talks the next morning.

Putin said his discussion with Bush about missiles had been "difficult" and had not altered the dim view Moscow takes of the scheme as it has been presented by the Americans so far.

But then, in a striking departure from what has become his trademark invective, Putin said that "there are some positive moves" afoot toward easing US-Russian tension over the plan.

"Our concerns are finally being heard by the American side," Putin said, adding that Russia viewed recent efforts by the United States to address its worries about the missile system as "important and useful."

Those were the two key words, first uttered by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov after discussing the missiles plan with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, that US officials had said they hoped to hear in Sochi.

"So an opportunity to work together is appearing and we are ready for this," Putin continued.

In a joint declaration issued after Bush's meeting with Putin, Russia went even further, saying it was also interested in developing a missile defence system in which Russia, the United States and Europe would be "equal partners."

Nowhere to be heard at the Sochi summit were Russia's stock attacks on US "unilateralism" on the missile plan, failure to consult the people of the countries involved or assertions that the threat itself was exaggerated.

Instead, by voicing interest in being involved on an equal footing with the United States in building the system, Russia acknowledged at least "potential" for missile threats and its desire to be involved in defending against that.

"We heard new rhetoric, where the presidents underlined the need to come to agreement" on missile defence, said Alexei Malashenko, an analyst with the Carnegie Moscow Center.

"Russia has understood that it is caught up in this process and that it must join it. Russia can no longer remain the only 'right' one against all of Europe, which has accepted the American plan," he said.

This was a reference to approval of the US plan last week by the 26 nations of NATO at the alliance's summit in Bucharest, a powerful endorsement that gave Bush new leverage as he met Putin for their last official summit talks.

Pavel Felgenhauer, an independent Russian military analyst, agreed that Russia had made a significant shift at the Sochi meeting. "Putin said that Russia is not opposed to a global anti-missile system," Felgenhauer said. "This is an important concession." The US plan calls for installing 10 "interceptor" missiles in ex-Warsaw Pact member Poland and a radar tracking system in the Czech Republic, another former Kremlin ally.

Washington says the system is needed to counter missile threats from "rogue states," notably Iran, while

Russia has claimed these threats were hypothetical at best and that it felt the US plan was really aimed at Russia itself.

While questioning the need for the system, Putin has previously also offered to take part in it, suggesting last year that the United States use a Russian radar based in Azerbaijan near Iran's border as part of the plan.

Never however has Russia gone as far as it did Sunday toward accepting the US plan at least as a basis for a broader missile defence scheme also including Europe, analysts said.

A Russian move closer to the US vision would be met with enormous relief in European countries that have watched with alarm as Moscow's temper flared over a US umbrella supposedly designed to defend them from Iran.

But Yevgeny Volk, an analyst with the US-based Heritage Foundation, said US and Russian talk, contained in their Sochi declaration, of US-European-Russian cooperation on building a missile shield was "wishful thinking."

"The fact is that the divergences are fundamental and they have not been resolved," he said, noting that in referring to the technical challenges of US-Russian cooperation Putin said: "The devil is in the details."

Poland ready for missile defence talks with Russia

Agence France Presse April 6

Warsaw is ready to hold talks with Moscow on placing missile defence installations in Poland, its vice-foreign minister said Sunday, after the United States and Russia agreed to consider a joint system.

"Poland is ready to talk to Russia and to the US on different forms of access to elements of an anti-missile shield, if these were to be installed in Poland". Witold Waszczykowski was quoted as saying by the PAP news agency.

But the vice-minister added that a permanent Russian base in Poland, such as existed in the Communist era, was "out of the question."

His comments came after Putin and US President George W Bush drafted a declaration on the subject at a summit in Russia -- a sign of progress on the sensitive US missile defence plans, although they found no immediate solutions.

The declaration noted that Moscow saw US confidence-building measures as "important and useful" and that Russia shared the United States' "interest in creating a system for responding" to potential missile threats.

"We appreciate the fact that Russia is willing to pursue talks on the installation of the American anti-missile shield in Poland," Waszczykowski said.

Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski said on Friday in Bucharest that "political participation" by Russia in deploying a US anti-missile defence system would be "a good thing for Poland."

The United States and the Czech Republic sealed a deal to deploy a radar on Czech soil on Thursday, which will form part of the US anti-missile shield.

Warsaw has not yet finished talks with Washington on the planned installation in Poland: 10 missile launchers linked to the radar in the Czech Republic.

NATO Backs Missile Defense in Europe, but Rejects Admitting Georgia and Ukraine

New York Times By STEVEN ERLANGER and STEVEN LEE MYERS 4 April

BUCHAREST, Romania -- NATO leaders agreed Thursday to endorse a United States missile defense system based in Europe and to provide more troops for Afghanistan, but they refused to back President Bush's proposal to bring Ukraine and Georgia closer to NATO membership.

Washington's failure to win over Germany, France, Italy, Spain and other crucial European countries to its view on Ukraine and Georgia was considered by some countries of Central and Eastern Europe to have sent a message of alliance weakness to Moscow, a day before the Russian president, Vladimir V. Putin, makes his first visit to a NATO summit meeting.

But Mr. Bush could claim success in persuading NATO to endorse his missile-defense plan in the face of Russian objections, and on Thursday signed an agreement with the Czech Republic to build radar for the system.

There has been, over 10 years, a real debate as to whether there is a ballistic missile threat, said Mr. Bush's national security adviser, Stephen J. Hadley. *And I think that debate ended today.* Mr. Bush also succeeded in getting NATO to agree to increase troop numbers in Afghanistan, a Washington priority.

Mr. Putin has objected strongly to building parts of the missile defense system in former Soviet bloc states, despite Washington's assurances that the system is a response to threats from Iran, not from Russia. Mr. Putin, saying the system would fuel a new arms race, has even threatened to aim Russian missiles at the system, while also offering the use of a substitute system in Azerbaijan.

NATO's final statement invited Russia to cooperate with the United States and Europe on developing defenses jointly.

Konstantin Kosachev, chairman of the international affairs committee of the Russian Parliament, said that missile defense would be high on the agenda for the meeting between Mr. Bush and Mr. Putin in Sochi, a Russian resort, scheduled after the NATO conference, which Mr. Putin is to attend Friday.

Mr. Kosachev said Russia doubted Washington's motives. *We still do not have a proper explanation of this project,* he said. *It is not about the number of interceptors. It's about undermining mutual confidence and trust.*

Czech, USA agree on main treaty on U.S. radar on Czech soil

April 3

Bucharest- The Czech Republic has agreed with the United States on the main treaty on the possible stationing of a U.S. anti-missile radar on Czech soil, Czech Foreign Minister Karel Schwarzenberg said after a meeting with his U.S. counterpart Condoleezza Rice within the NATO summit today.

The treaty is to be signed in early May, he said.

NATO as a whole will probably fully support at the summit the U.S. plans to build a system of anti-missile defence in central Europe of which the radar on Czech soil will be part.

The announcement of the Czech-U.S. agreement today was more or less expected since various representatives of both countries were indicating over the past few days that the agreement is in the offing.

The ongoing summit is an ideal venue to make such an announcement.

Both Prague and Washington want to hear that the Alliance supports or acknowledges the plan and that it counts with its integration with the future NATO system.

The U.S. plan to build a radar base in the Brdy military district some 90 km southwest of Prague also counts with the stationing of ten interceptor missiles in Poland.

Washington's negotiations with Warsaw have not, however, progressed that far like those with Prague. Besides, Poland raises various demands, such as a strengthening of its military capacities, which some say are too big.

It is not ruled out that only the radar base would eventually be built in Central Europe.

U.S. Missile Defense Agency (MDA) director Henry Obering reportedly said on Wednesday the United States will be interested in stationing the radar in the Czech Republic even if it does not reach agreement with Poland.

This possibility is also indicated by certain statements made by Czech representatives.

First deputy foreign minister Tomas Pojar, the Czech Republic's chief negotiator for the radar, said recently that even the radar base alone would strengthen the country's security.

The United States says the radar base and the base in Poland that are to be part of the U.S. anti-missile shield would protect the United States and a large part of Europe against missiles that states like Iran might launch.

NATO to Endorse US Missile-Defense Plan

AP By MATTHEW LEE April 3

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — NATO leaders have agreed to fully endorse U.S. plans to build a missile defense system in Eastern Europe and to urge Russia to drop its objections to the shield, senior American officials said Thursday.

The endorsement is contained in a communique that the leaders of the 26-nation military alliance will adopt Thursday during their summit being held here, the officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity ahead of the statement's release.

The document will state that "ballistic missile proliferation poses an increasing threat to allied forces, territory and populations." It also will recognize "the substantial contribution to the protection of allies ... to be provided by the U.S.-led system," the officials said.

The statement calls on all NATO members to explore ways in which the planned U.S. project, to be based in Poland and the Czech Republic, can be linked with future missile shields elsewhere. It says leaders should come up with recommendations to be considered at their next meeting in 2009, the officials said.

The document calls on Russia to accept U.S. and NATO offers to cooperate on the system, the officials

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said.

Russia vehemently opposes the plan, believing it will threaten its own deterrent force and upset the balance of power in Europe. The backing from NATO provides President Bush with a leg up in his negotiations with Moscow over the issue.

Poland against permanent Russian presence at U.S. missile base.

RIA Novosti April 2

Poland will not agree to the permanent presence of Russian military observers at a proposed U.S. missile base on its territory, the foreign minister said on Wednesday.

The idea of allowing Russians to monitor proposed U.S. missile defense bases in Central Europe was one of the proposals put forward by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Defense Secretary Robert Gates during their talks in Moscow on March 18 with Russia's Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.

"We will not allow the permanent presence of Russian military officers at a U.S. missile base [in Poland], but they will be able to conduct temporary inspections and monitoring," Radoslaw Sikorski said in an interview with the Polish Gazeta Wyborcza newspaper.

The minister reiterated that Poland has not yet decided whether to allow the placement of a U.S. missile interceptor base on its territory, despite rumors circulated in Polish media.

"We are ready to expedite this process, but only after reaching a consensus [with the U.S.] on some conditions that I am not going to divulge," he said.

The George W. Bush administration earlier said it backed Warsaw's request for aid in modernizing its missile defenses.

The U.S. plans to deploy 10 interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar in the Czech Republic citing a threat from Iran and other "rogue states," while Russia views these plans as a destabilizing factor for Europe and a threat to its national security.

Poland's new government led by Donald Tusk, which came to power in November last year, has taken a more cautious approach to the U.S. proposal than former Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski's cabinet, which fully supported the plan.

Sikorski said Poland will not share the cost of the construction of a missile base with the U.S.

In his 2009 budget proposal, President Bush requested \$96 million for the development of missile shield elements, \$382.6 million for the actual deployment of the complexes in Poland and the Czech Republic, and \$241.2 million for construction works.

However, U.S. Congress said it would not allow the Bush administration to spend the allocated budget for the construction of the missile defense infrastructure in Poland and the Czech Republic in 2008, unless Washington signed bilateral agreements with these countries.

No link between NATO bids and missile defence: Bush

Reuters News April 1

U.S. President George W. Bush said on Tuesday there was no link between bids by ex-Soviet Ukraine and Georgia to begin the process of joining NATO and plans to deploy a U.S. missile defence system in Europe.

"That is a misperception," Bush said after talks in Kiev. "I strongly believe that Ukraine and Georgia should be given MAP (Membership Action Plans) and there's no tradeoffs. Period."

Bush said he had made that clear to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Russia opposes the bid by both ex-Soviet states to seek long-term NATO membership and has also criticised U.S. plans to deploy interceptor rockets and a radar in Poland and the Czech Republic.

White House Raises Hopes Of Missile Deal

April 1 AP By Terence Hunt

The White House raised hopes Monday of achieving a breakthrough agreement to resolve bitter differences with Moscow over missile defenses in Europe when President Bush meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin this weekend.

Bush's national security adviser, Stephen Hadley, said no deal was in hand yet but the two leaders could nail it down when they meet Sunday in the Black Sea resort of Sochi. "We may. We're hopeful," he said. It will be the last meeting between the two men before Putin steps away from the Russian presidency.

Hadley briefed reporters on Air Force One as Bush flew to Ukraine to begin a weeklong trip in Eastern Europe, anchored by a NATO summit in Bucharest, Romania. Arriving in Kiev late at night, Bush was presented with a traditional greeting of bread and salt. His wife, Laura, was given a bouquet of flowers.

The Western military alliance has been strained by the refusal of Germany and other allies to send more combat troops to Afghanistan, prompting accusations from Washington that they are shirking their duty. France announced last week it would send more forces, probably a battalion of elite paratroopers. That has reduced some of the pressure and allowed Bush and other leaders to step back from a NATO clash. Britain and Poland also are expected to do more.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates, in Denmark ahead of the NATO summit, set measured expectations.

"I would be surprised if we saw commitments in Bucharest at a level that would fully meet all the requirements" for combat troops and military and police trainers, Gates said. "But we'll just keep working at it."

The United States wants not only more troops, but also fewer restrictions from some governments on how their troops can be used.

"We've all been saying that we all need to do more," Hadley said. "We've also been saying this is going to be a long effort and we're going to have to be committed to a long-term effort in Afghanistan. I think that's true. We need to step it up. I think you'll find that countries are stepping up. That's a good next step. But there are going to be more steps down the road."

The U.S. proposal for a missile defense shield in Eastern Europe has been a major source of friction between Washington and Moscow.

For months, Putin has ratcheted up his anti-American rhetoric, demanding that the United States abandon

the plan, which would be based in Poland and the Czech Republic, two former Soviet satellites. Putin has complained it would upset the balance of power and was aimed at weakening Russia, charges the United States has repeatedly denied.

In recent days, there have been signs of progress toward resolving the dispute. Bush sent Gates and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to Moscow with concessions to ease Russia's concerns. Bush also sent a personal letter to Putin. A Russian delegation spent several days in Washington last week working on the problem.

The United States has offered to let Russia monitor the system and share in the information that is collected. Bush also has offered not to activate the system until there is a verifiable threat from Iran or some other adversary.

"I think we're moving in a direction where ... Russia and the United States could have missile defense as an area of strategic cooperation," Hadley said.

Bush, in an interview last week, insisted the missile shield was not aimed at Russia. "After all, it doesn't take many missiles to overwhelm the kind of system we're talking about," Bush said. "And Russia has got plenty of missiles if they want to overwhelm." Bush said the shield was intended to protect from missiles launched from the Middle East, where the United States regards Iran as a primary threat.

US Says Missile Deal With Czechs Nears

AP By Desmond Butler **April 1**

A senior U.S. missile defense negotiator said Monday that the United States is nearing a deal with the Czech Republic to install a radar on Czech soil.

Speaking at a conference on missile defense, John Rood, the U.S. State Department's undersecretary for arms control and international security, said that negotiations could be wrapped up within days "with a final burst of activity."

He said he was also optimistic that negotiations with Poland to install interceptors as part of the same system designed to protect Europe and the United States from missiles launched from the Middle East or Iran could be completed soon.

"Although there are still some important issues to be resolved in the negotiations, I don't see any insurmountable obstacles," he said.

The Czech Republic is also saying that it is ready to sign a deal. Prime Minister Mirek Topolanek is quoted in a Czech newspaper Monday as saying that the last problems in negotiations have been cleared away. He says an announcement could come at NATO's summit in Bucharest, Romania that begins Wednesday.

The Czech parliament would have to approve any deal reached by the government.

Lt. General Henry A. Trey Obering, director of the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, told reporters that if the deals with Poland and the Czech Republic were completed this year, construction on the two sites could begin by the end of 2009.

Rood acknowledged that the U.S. plans in Poland and the Czech Republic have caused tension with Russia, which has rejected U.S. arguments that the missile shield is needed to counter a prospective missile

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threat from Iran. It argues that the U.S. plan would erode its nuclear deterrent. Last year, Russian President Vladimir Putin warned that Russia could target the planned U.S. defense sites in Europe with its missiles.

"The negotiations we have held with the Czech Republic and Poland have of course brought about some strong complaints from Russia, including some reprehensible threats to target Poland and the Czech Republic with missiles," he said.

Rood is involved in talks with Russian officials to find ways of easing Russia's concerns. President Bush and Putin are scheduled to discuss the issue Sunday in the Black Sea resort city of Sochi.

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