

RECORD VERSION

STATEMENT BY

LIEUTENANT GENERAL LARRY J. DODGEN, USA

**COMMANDING GENERAL,
U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND
AND
U.S. ARMY FORCES STRATEGIC COMMAND**

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**Lieutenant General Larry J. Dodgen, USA
Commanding General
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command
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U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command**

Introduction

Mr. Chairman, Sen. Levin and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before this distinguished committee and for your ongoing support of our Army. This panel has been a long time friend of the Army, particularly of our efforts to field missile defense forces for the Nation. The Army considers it a privilege to be counted in the ranks with Mr. Christie, Mr. Wynne, Admiral Ellis, and Lieutenant General Kadish as advocates for a strong global missile defense system. Today, I appear before this committee as the Army proponent for the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) System. In a broader context, I am a member of the joint missile defense team as the Army Component Commander in support of the United States Strategic Command, and the joint user representative working closely with the Missile Defense Agency, other services, and combatant commanders to ensure that our national goals of developing, testing and deploying a missile defense system are met.

Mr. Chairman, as we speak, Army men and women are training to operate the GMD System being deployed at Fort Greely, Alaska. During the past few months, an initial cadre of the GMD Brigade and a subordinate GMD Battalion were activated. Once Initial Defensive Operations are stood up, these Soldiers will stand as part of the joint team

in our Nation's first line of defense against any launch, either accidental or hostile, of an intercontinental ballistic missile toward our shores. I am proud to represent them. Meeting their needs, in training and support, is our highest priority.

Theater Missile Defense—PATRIOT/MEADS

In addition to deploying a GMD System, the Missile Defense Agency, the Army, and other DoD Agencies and Services have focused attention on improving Theater Missile Defense (TMD) Systems. Both GMD and TMD Systems are vital for protecting our homeland, deployed forces, friends and allies. Missile defense is a key component in support of the Army's core competency of providing relevant and ready land power to Combatant Commanders as part of the Joint Force.

Today, I have been asked about, and I am happy to focus on, developments concerning the PATRIOT Missile System, particularly the PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3), and its follow-on system, the Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS). Both of these systems are designed to counter theater missile threats in their terminal flight phase as well as cruise missile threats. These systems will bring an umbrella of security for deployed forces well into the future. Again, I would like to thank the Congress for its continued support of these important systems.

Mr. Chairman, in 1991, during OPERATION DESERT STORM (ODS), we witnessed the first use of the PATRIOT Air and Missile Defense System. As you know, initial reports praised the system; however, further analysis determined that it was partially effective, still

providing, for the first time in history, some protection against ballistic missiles for relatively small but high value assets. Following ODS, the Army implemented a series of improvements to address the lessons learned. Nearly one year ago we saw the improved PATRIOT system, including the Guidance Enhanced Missile (GEM) and PATRIOT Advanced Capability 3 (PAC-3) missiles, debut in combat during Operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF). Detailed analysis from a variety of data sources confirm that eight of nine warheads intercepted by the PATRIOT system during OIF were destroyed. There is insufficient data on the ninth intercept to conclusively validate a warhead kill. In OIF, PATRIOT saved lives from Ballistic Missile attack.

The PATRIOT system remains the Army's premier theater missile defense system. PAC-3 is the latest evolution of the phased material change improvement program to PATRIOT. Combining developmental testing and operations, this program has allowed for the development and deployment of the PAC-3, thus bringing a new high-velocity, kinetic hit-to-kill, surface-to-air missile with the range, accuracy, and lethality necessary to effectively intercept and destroy more sophisticated ballistic missile threats.

Combined Approach

Recently, the Army, after approval by the Defense Acquisition Executive, embarked on a path to merge the PATRIOT and MEADS missile systems. In so doing, the Combined Aggregate Program (CAP) was established. The objective of the CAP is to achieve the MEADS capability through incremental fielding of MEADS major end items. MEADS is a tri-National co-development program that consists of Italy,

Germany and the United States. Once fielded, MEADS will provide linkage to the Army's fully networked battle command capabilities, serve as a bridge from the current to future force, enable interdependent network-centric warfare, provide for Future Combat System interoperability, and fully support Joint operating concepts.

The MEADS system is transformational—it offers a significant improvement in strategic deployability and tactical mobility. The system uses a netted and distributed architecture with modular and configurable battle elements allowing it to integrate with other airborne and ground-based sensors and shooters. These features and capabilities will allow MEADS to achieve a robust 360-degree defense against all airborne threats: tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles, and manned aircraft.

Mr. Chairman, by combining the resources available to both the PATRIOT and MEADS programs, the Army is able to achieve incremental development and accelerate incremental fielding of MEADS major end items. This incremental fielding approach reduces sustainment costs while delivering increased anti-missile defense capability across the force earlier. This approach offers the most efficient use of limited, valuable resources while giving maximum flexibility in regard to funding and developing requirements of the warfighter.

There are several key elements of the combined program that further demonstrate the benefits. First, the existing PAC-3 Missile is the internationally accepted missile for MEADS. The Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) is an improvement over PAC-3 and under

consideration by the tri-national partners. The PAC-3 MSE will replace the standard PAC-3 in production. It will provide an increase in battle space against both missile and air breathing threats.

Second, battlefield management, command, control, communications, and intelligence will continually evolve during the CAP; therefore, the new system will take into account recent developments while simultaneously remaining integrated within the MDA's and the Army's System of Systems requirements. Additionally, operational PATRIOT units will be modernized as these new enhancements are added to their equipment.

Third, the program allows for earlier procurement of the objective lightweight launcher in lieu of the recapitalization program and conversion of existing launchers.

Fourth, MEADS requires the development of a new Multifunction Fire Control Radar (MFCR) and a new Surveillance Radar (SR) to achieve 360-degree engagement capabilities. The fielding of this new sensor suite will complete the CAP and provide Army Air and Missile defense forces with the capability to counter threats of the 21st century.

The Army, and the entire missile defense community, continues to strive to improve our Nation's missile defense capabilities. The established CAP effort will be just that. The PATRIOT architecture will become more robust as enhancements are integrated into the existing system. Simultaneously, lessons learned from the present missile defense capability will be incorporated into the MEADS follow on system.

We are confident that this path will provide our servicemembers, our allies, our friends, and our nation with the most capable missile defense system possible.

Conclusion

Mr. Chairman, the Army is Relevant and Ready, fighting the war on terrorism, deployed in Southwest Asia and elsewhere, and deterring aggression throughout the world while transforming to meet future threats. With its responsibilities for GMD, PATRIOT and MEADS, the Army is a key player in the development of the Ballistic Missile Defense System which will counter existing and emerging threats to the US, our deployed forces, and friends and allies. I appreciate having the opportunity to speak on these important matters and look forward to addressing any questions you or the other members of the Committee may have.