

**STATEMENT OF**

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(ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS)**

**BEFORE THE  
SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**March 11, 2004**

**Missile Defense Program Progress  
The Honorable Michael W. Wynne  
Acting Under Secretary of Defense  
(Acquisition, Technology and Logistics)**

Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Ranking Member, and Members of the Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 Department of Defense Missile Defense Program and budget submission. I am pleased to provide you this update on the progress of the Missile Defense development program.

The National Missile Defense Act of 1999 established that it is the policy of the United States to deploy as soon as technologically possible an effective National Missile Defense system capable of defending the territory of the United States against limited ballistic missile attack. Upon taking office, President Bush directed that the Department of Defense examine the full range of available technologies and basing modes for missile defense that could protect the United States, our deployed forces, and our friends and allies. In light of the changed security environment following 9-11 and the progress made in development efforts, the President directed the Department to begin fielding missile defense capabilities in 2004. During this past year, the Department has been hard at work developing the missile defense capabilities that will respond to the President's direction. We are using postulated ballistic missile attack scenarios to incorporate increasing realism into our test program. Although we have encountered and solved a number of technical difficulties, and can expect further challenges on the path ahead, we

are on track to deliver a useful ballistic missile defense capability later in 2004. That initial capability will likely be limited, but will still represent a dramatic improvement over our current condition of being defenseless against ballistic missile attack. As additional components of our initial configuration are placed in service in 2004 and 2005, the effectiveness of the missile defense capability will incrementally improve. Further improvements planned for 2006 and beyond will enhance both the capability of fielded missile defense components and the depth of those capabilities. The Ballistic Missile Defense Program differs from the classical major defense acquisition program, so our approach to acquisition differs. Rather than produce and deploy a fixed “objective” missile defense configuration to serve its entire operational life, we plan an ambitious program of technology insertions and additional fielding actions to enhance the capability. Such an approach, implemented in an integrated system of systems to provide layered defense will deepen the protection of our nation, extend protection to allies and friends, and keep pace with the developing threat.

Our confidence in the capabilities we are about to place in service is based on an assessment of the performance of individual elements of the system and of the overall system during testing conducted throughout the development program, supplemented by modeling and simulation. As we have progressed in the test program, we have incorporated increasing realism and operational factors. The flight test program for the remainder of 2004 and 2005 has been structured to incorporate target geometries and test conditions which closely approximate the most plausible operational attack scenarios.

The outcome of those tests will yield valuable information for assessing the effectiveness of the fielded missile defense system and strengthening our confidence in the capability. As we field additional elements of the planned Block 2004 configuration, such as the sea-based X-band radar in 2005, we also improve our ability to evaluate the system. So while the initial capability will be limited, progress in fielding the rest of Block 2004 will improve both the capability and our ability to test it.

The flexibility that resulted from the Secretary's direction to consolidate ballistic missile defense development activity within a single program and to streamline our oversight process has enabled the Director of the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) to make the programmatic moves that make the fielding of initial ballistic missile defense capabilities possible. The Congress has been rightly concerned that the Department provide proper oversight of this effort and that the Congress retain its insight into missile defense program developments. I have examined the oversight structure and am confident that it facilitates the decisive action needed, while providing extensive and frequent insight into the program to senior Department leaders and to the Congress.

I believe this new approach is proving successful in developing the Missile Defense Program. In comparison to other programs, my interactions with the Director, MDA, to provide guidance, and my interactions with the Secretary, to provide feedback and receive guidance, are more direct and generally carried out in face-to-face discussions. The success of the Program in preparing for initial fielding later this year demonstrates

the effectiveness of this approach. In addition, the Missile Defense Program is setting Department standards for such activities as systems engineering and effective testing of complex systems of systems, and we are beginning to apply those lessons to other programs.

The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2005 fully supports the Ballistic Missile Defense Program. It will allow us to complete the fielding of the initial defensive configuration, to maintain that configuration both on alert and as a test bed, and to proceed with development of future improvements to the system. I urge the Committee to support the President's Budget for this important program.

In my role of managing the Defense acquisition process, I strive to ensure that all of the key DoD stakeholders are involved in the process leading to programmatic decisions. I solicit the advice and support of the various DoD interests represented on the Defense Acquisition Board. The streamlined oversight process instituted for the Missile Defense Program changes the mechanics of the collaborative process, but retains its essence. The extensive, ongoing dialog within the Department on all aspects of the Missile Defense Program provides advice and support to the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, the Director of MDA, and me.

The Missile Defense Support Group, playing a key role in oversight, has continued to provide beneficial advice and comment to the Director of MDA and to me on various

aspects of the program. These senior, experienced representatives of 15 principals of the Department have met 41 times since the MDSG was created in March 2002. They have provided advice on various aspects of the development program for the integrated ballistic missile defense system, options for fielding capability, and ways of implementing those options. They have also provided valuable advice for involving our allies in the missile defense development program. Recognizing the challenge of placing this developmental system into operational service, we have added the U.S. Strategic Command to the MDSG to gain an improved understanding of the concerns of the warfighter as we approach the commencement of Initial Defensive Operations. No program in the Department receives more scrutiny—either in level or frequency—than the Missile Defense Program.

In addition to the MDSG, engagement between Office of the Secretary of Defense officials, the Joint Staff, the Military Services, and the MDA is extensive and ongoing. I meet weekly with the Director of MDA to address important issues and provide guidance on the way ahead. The Director and Principal Deputy of Program Analysis and Evaluation have met periodically with the MDA Director and his senior staff to develop strategies for fielding missile defense capabilities and to resolve other programmatic issues. PA&E's staff monitors the progress of the missile defense program, within the framework of the MDSG, through the program and budget review process, and by periodic engagement with their MDA counterparts.

The Joint Requirements Oversight Council monitors the progress of the development program, concurs with MDA's goals and program plan, and is satisfied with overall missile defense program cost and schedule performance. Members of the Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense Organization and U.S. Strategic Command interact regularly with MDA in the development of operational concepts for ballistic missile defense and in the assessment of the system's military utility.

The relationship between MDA and the OSD Cost Analysis Improvement Group is governed by a formal memorandum of agreement guiding the development of cost models and shared databases essential for the preparation of cost estimates for the ballistic missile defense system. This ongoing interaction has facilitated the completion of independent cost estimates for elements to be fielded in Block 2004.

The Director of Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) and the Service operational test agencies (OTA) are fully engaged with MDA. The DOT&E and the leadership of the Service OTAs meet periodically with MDA's senior leadership. The Deputy Director, OT&E, has near-daily interaction with MDA's senior staff. DOT&E personnel work closely with MDA in the development and review of test plans, observation of testing, participation in data reviews and the assessment of results. DOT&E's annual reports to the Congress are informed by the ongoing exchange between DOT&E, the Service OTAs and MDA.

The Military Service acquisition chiefs meet regularly with MDA's leaders to resolve issues relating to the ballistic missile defense capabilities which will, ultimately, be operated and maintained by the Services.

U.S. leadership in ballistic missile defense has encouraged several of our allies to join the effort. Allied engagement, which was in its infancy a year ago, has now taken root. We have entered into a formal agreement with the United Kingdom for missile defense cooperation and are negotiating agreements with Japan, Australia, and Denmark. Other nations have also signaled their desire to participate. We are structuring our efforts to facilitate their participation, another aspect of the President's missile defense direction.

We are grateful for the support of Congress, which has made this bold effort to field missile defense capabilities possible. Congressional approval of the President's requests for missile defense funding has been critical to our smooth execution of the program. Continued cooperation between the Department and Congress will only grow in importance as we execute our mission to provide for the national security of the United States. I look forward to continuing that cooperation.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before the Committee. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.