

BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION  
FY 1998 President's Budget Overview

1. OVERVIEW: The Ballistic Missile Defense Program is structured to respond to existing and emerging ballistic missile threats to the United States, its forward deployed forces, allies, and friends around the world. First priority is Theater Missile Defense, (TMD), second priority is National Missile Defense (NMD) and, third priority is an investment in BMD advanced technologies in order to enhance future BMD capabilities for both TMD and NMD.

2. THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM: The TMD key elements include: PATRIOT PAC-3 upgrades, Navy Area Defense program, the Theater High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) System, and Navy Theater-wide BMD. The TMD program also includes MEADS and appropriate battle management, command, control, and communications for these theater capabilities. The PATRIOT mission is to provide asset and force protection from all types of air and short range tactical missile threats. The THAAD mission is to defeat endo/exo TBMs with multiple shot opportunities. The mission of the Navy Area Defense program is point defense of strategic assets. The Navy Theater-wide BMD complements it by engaging the longer range, high altitude threat. Both are stand off weapon systems used to protect U.S. Forces and our allies.

3. NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM (NMD): The NMD program is a deployment readiness program that involves developing the element hardware that will be used in an FY 1999 integrated system test (IFT-5) intended to demonstrate an NMD capability. In addition, contract strategies are being implemented that will allow for fielding and maintaining an initial NMD system by FY 2003. Program risk is being reduced by performing the maximum number of system level tests between FY 2000 and FY 2003. Directly supporting the NMD program is the Space Based Infrared System (Low Component) (funded and managed by the Air Force). In April 1996 the USD(A&T) designated NMD as an ACAT 1D program and in July 1996 the program successfully completed its first OIPT review.

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4. ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY: To meet future needs, the Advanced Technology program is investing in high leverage technologies for improved capabilities in kinetic energy interceptors and advanced sensors. Limited directed energy efforts are programmed for developing and validating technologies, and integrating subsystems, which could be part of global boost phase intercept defense. New ideas and technologies for missile defense are being investigated by the Innovative Sciences and Technology program.

5. SUMMARY: When the core TMD systems are deployed, U.S. forces overseas will have defensive capability against a broad spectrum of short and longer-range theater-class ballistic missiles. Meanwhile, BMDO is committed to maintaining a well-focused deployment readiness program for National Missile Defense of the United States. BMDO also will continue to demonstrate advanced technologies as options for enhancing initial BMD systems. The Department of Defense remains committed to ensuring that as new ballistic threats arise, highly effective ballistic missile defenses will be in place to defend our forces.