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Carnegie Endowment Report
January 2009

Nuclear Security Spending: Assessing Costs, Examining Priorities

Stephen I. Schwartz, Deepti Choubey

U.S. Spent Over \$52 Billion on Nuclear Security in 2008

The United States spent over \$52 billion on nuclear weapons and related programs in fiscal year 2008, but only 10 percent of that will have gone toward preventing a nuclear attack and slowing and reversing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and technology. Stephen I. Schwartz and Deepti Choubey explain that the lack of comprehensive accounting impairs balancing of priorities and fosters the impression that the United States is more interested in preserving and upgrading its nuclear arsenal than in reducing and eliminating the growing threats of nuclear proliferation and limited nuclear or radiological attack.

For the full report, see: http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/nuclear_security_spending.pdf

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IFRI Security Studies Center Proliferation Paper No. 24
Winter 2009

Heading for the Fourth Nuclear Age

Ariel (Eli) Levite

In a new Proliferation Paper published by the Institut Français des Relations Internationales' (Ifri) Security Studies Center, Ariel E. Levite examines the evolution of the global nuclear order since the advent of nuclear weapons in 1945 to present by breaking down the sixty-plus years of nuclear history into three analytically distinct "ages," each lasting roughly twenty years. By doing so, Levite traces back the roots of the current nuclear predicament to some early seeds of trouble which have gradually grown more profound. He attributes much of the unraveling of the nuclear order to:

- Certain inherent weaknesses in the original NPT formula;
- Changes in the global distribution of power since the codification of the nuclear order in the 1960s;
- The dissemination of nuclear weapon technology; and
- Complacency and subsequent disillusionment with the nuclear order since the early 1990s.

The paper further analyzes what could precipitate a new nuclear age around 2010. Levite argues that such a "fourth nuclear age" would likely be characterized by either a nuclear anarchy, which he believes has become the default option, or a more benign nuclear order manifested by lower numbers of weapons and stringent controls and restrictions on remaining nuclear arsenals and activities. He concludes by considering the more pressing requirements for regaining nuclear stability.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/Levite_Fourth_Nuclear_Age.pdf

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Current History
January 2009

The New Disarmament Discussion

Sharon Squassoni

Nuclear disarmament appears to be on track for a political makeover. Serious commentators have begun to discuss what it might take to actually get to zero nuclear weapons, a question that is no longer the exclusive purview of grassroots activists. No one believes the goal will be achieved any time soon. But a consensus has emerged that the

project of disarmament must be taken seriously if the world is to avoid further proliferation of nuclear weapons, perhaps into the hands of terrorists.

Until about two years ago, few but the most ardent antinuclear groups advocated outright elimination of nuclear weapons. Arms control advocates lobbied for fewer strategic nuclear weapons, less threatening alert postures, a continued ban on nuclear testing, and limited or no modernization of existing stockpiles, among other things. When cornered, US government officials would note that Article VI of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) calls for negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament. In short, there was a safety valve on just how far the project of nuclear disarmament could proceed and certainly no timetable for reaching any particular goals.

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/squassoni_current_history.pdf

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Time

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009

N. Korea, Iran Open to New Diplomatic Ideas

By AP / JAE-SOON CHANG

(SEOUL, South Korea) — North Korea and Iran, two nations with nuclear aspirations the U.S. wants to thwart, both signaled Wednesday that they were open to new initiatives from President Barack Obama that could defuse tensions.

A newspaper considered a mouthpiece for the North Korean government said the communist regime is willing to give up its nuclear weapons if the U.S. agrees to conditions imposed by the North, including establishing formal diplomatic relations.

Iran said it was "ready for new approaches" from Obama after his predecessor George W. Bush shunned the country.

"With old friends and former foes, we will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat," Obama said in his inauguration speech Tuesday. "To those who cling to power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history; but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist," the new American president said. (N Korea Reneges on Nukes [EM] Again.)

The Japanese-based newspaper Choson Sinbo said in a story posted on its Web site hours before the inauguration that the North was waiting to see what position the new president would take on the nuclear standoff. The North holds a stash of weapons-grade plutonium that experts say could fuel as many as 10 nuclear bombs and it has already tested a nuclear device.

Last week, the North said it would give up its nuclear weapons only if Washington establishes diplomatic relations and ceases to pose a nuclear threat — an apparent reference to the regime's long-standing claim that American nuclear weapons are hidden in South Korea. Both South Korea and Washington deny the accusation. Why Iran Won't Budge on Nukes

The Choson Sinbo report said the North put forward conditions for its nuclear abandonment "ahead of the launch of the Obama administration," and it was now up to Washington to act. "It is too early to predict whether the Obama administration will endorse the North's nuclear possession or try to realize denuclearization through normalization of relations," the newspaper report said. "But what is sure is that the North side is ready to deal with any choice by the enemy nation."

The newspaper is closely linked to the North Korean government and its articles are considered a reflection of the North's positions.

Obama has said he would meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Il if it helps the international process to disarm the North.

The North's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper called the U.S. "bloodthirsty" Wednesday in a routine commentary that accused Washington of planning to invade. The official Korean Central News Agency also briefly reported Obama's inauguration without any assessment of the new leader.

Iran's foreign minister, Manouchehr Mottaki, urged Obama to change American policies in the Middle East. "We are ready for new approaches by the United States," Mottaki told the English-language Press TV, part of Iran's state media.

Associated Press reporter Ali Akbar Dareini contributed to this report from Tehran.

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1873047,00.html>

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The Korea Herald
Thursday, 22 January 2009

Obama to Eliminate N. Korean Nukes through Tough, Direct Diplomacy: White House

The new Barack Obama administration will get rid of North Korea's nuclear weapons programs "through tough and direct diplomacy," the White House was quoted as saying by Yonhap News Agency.

The administration plans to "use tough diplomacy -- backed by real incentives and real pressures -- to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons and to eliminate fully and verifiably North Korea's nuclear weapons program," according to a foreign policy agenda posted on the White House Web site.

The Web posting comes one day after Obama said in his swearing-in ceremony Tuesday that "with old friends and former foes, we will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat."

The website also said that "Obama and (Vice President) Biden will crack down on nuclear proliferation by strengthening the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty so that countries like North Korea and Iran that break the rules will automatically face strong international sanctions."

North Korea is suspected of being involved in the construction of a nuclear facility in Syria that was destroyed by an Israeli air bombing in September.

http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/NEWKHSITE/data/html_dir/2009/01/22/200901220066.asp

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Yonhap News
22 January 2009

N. Korea says U.S. Preparing for War with New Fighters in S. Korea

SEOUL, Jan. 22 (Yonhap) -- North Korea vowed to retain its nuclear weapons on Thursday and accused the United States of preparing for a preemptive nuclear strike by deploying new fighters and spy planes to South Korea.

Pyongyang routinely criticizes the U.S. military stationed in South Korea and says it is compelled to keep nuclear weapons as a deterrent.

The U.S. military plans to replace half of its tank-fighting Apache helicopters in South Korea with F-16 multi-role fighters in March. The Apaches are expected to be redeployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said the fighter jets and other weapons set to be deployed to the Asia-Pacific region, such as the U-2 reconnaissance plane, are evidence of an increasing nuclear threat from the U.S.

"It is absolutely unpardonable crime for the U.S. to get frantic with arms buildup for aggression aimed at a preemptive nuclear strike at its dialogue partner behind the scene while paying lip-service to dialogue and the like," the KCNA said. Such criticism is not new, but the latest comments may have added significance as they come just days after the inauguration of U.S. President Barack Obama.

Analysts say Pyongyang may be trying to draw Obama's attention with its recent rash of commentaries saying it intends to keep its nuclear weapons.

Other countries in the region -- South Korea, the U.S., China, Japan and Russia -- are trying to resolve the dispute over North Korea's nuclear weapons under a 2007 deal, in which North Korea will receive energy and diplomatic incentives in exchange for ending its nuclear program.

The KCNA said Washington is "misleading the public opinion" by asserting that Pyongyang's nuclear drive is to blame for military tension on the Korean Peninsula.

"The DPRK will never do such thing (denuclearization) first unless the U.S. rolls back its hostile policy toward the DPRK and fundamentally removes its nuclear threat to the latter," it said. DPRK is the acronym for the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2009/01/22/62/0401000000AEN20090122007400315F.HTML>

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GlobalSecurityNewswire.org

North Korean Mouthpiece Urges Quick Action by Obama on Nuclear Standoff

Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009

New U.S. President Barack Obama should break with the policy of his predecessor and take quick action to resolve the North Korean nuclear crisis, a Japanese newspaper friendly to the regime in Pyongyang said today (see *GSN*, Jan. 21).

"The old U.S. policy set up an order of confrontation on the Korean peninsula and threatened peace," according to the *Choson Sinbo* newspaper. "If President Obama's inauguration speech means he would abandon the bad practices of coerciveness and arbitrariness, and act positively in the international arena, the peace and security regime in this region is a subject" necessary for consideration.

Washington has been one participant in the years-old six-party talks -- along with China, Japan, Russia and South Korea -- aimed at persuading Pyongyang to dismantle its nuclear operations and holdings, including weapons. The effort reached a major milestone in 2007 when North Korea agreed to denuclearization in exchange for economic, diplomatic and security concessions from the other nations. Pyongyang since then has taken several steps toward meeting its obligations, but the process has proved rocky and is currently stalled over details of verification of the scope of its nuclear sector.

Obama has indicated his willingness to engage North Korea directly in order to promote the process. The North Korean Foreign Ministry, though, said last week that nuclear disarmament must be preceded by establishment of diplomatic relations with Washington and proof that there are no U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea (Associated Press/Yahoo!News, Jan. 22).

Observers said they did not believe the Obama administration's policy on North Korea would be drastically different from that of the Bush administration, which ended its term Tuesday, the Yonhap News Agency reported.

The new leadership in Washington is likely to "continue the six-party talks, and would be willing to begin a process that could lead to bilateral discussions at some future time," said Brookings Institution researcher Barry Bosworth.

"At this point there is not a large difference on policy on North Korea between the old and new administrations," he said.

"Regarding Korea policy, the main difference between the Obama and Bush administrations will be that President Obama will take a more pragmatic approach," said David Straub, associate director of the Korean Studies Program at Stanford University. "U.S. strategic aims regarding North Korea and the U.S.-[South Korea] alliance will not change."

Straub added that he did not expect Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to make any trips to Pyongyang in the near future.

"She will only visit there if she has good reason to believe that North Korea will respond quite positively on the nuclear issue," he said. "A visit by President Obama to North Korea will only happen to cement a firm nuclear deal" (Yonhap News Agency I, Jan. 21).

Meanwhile, Russian Ambassador to South Korea Glev Ivashendsov said yesterday that his nation does not accept North Korea as a nuclear power, Yonhap reported.

Pyongyang has argued that its 2006 nuclear test blast gave it standing among the world's recognized nuclear weapons states. While some U.S. documents have appeared to agree, Washington's official stance has been that North Korea is not a nuclear power.

The blast itself produced a yield of less than one kiloton, suggesting that the test was something of a dud.

"The explosion occurred just 177 kilometers from the Russian territory, so this issue has direct repercussions on Russia," Ivashendsov said during a speech in Seoul (Yonhap News Agency II, Jan. 22).

Elsewhere, a high-level Chinese official was conducting talks today with officials in Pyongyang, Agence France-Presse reported.

Wang Jiarui was likely to say that the government in Beijing "is much more optimistic with the Obama administration than [former President George W.] Bush's, and that it'd be in North Korea's interest to cooperate in the nuclear negotiations," Sejong Institute expert Paik Hak-soon told Yonhap.

Wang might also meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, who has not made a public appearance since reportedly suffering a stroke last summer (Agence France-Presse/Spacewar.com, Jan. 22).

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090122_8038.php

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International Herald Tribune

Swiss Nuclear Smuggling Suspect Claims CIA Link

The Associated Press

Thursday, January 22, 2009

GENEVA: A Swiss man suspected of being involved in the world's biggest nuclear smuggling ring claims he supplied the CIA with information that led to the breakup of the black market nuclear network led by Pakistani scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan.

In a documentary airing Thursday on Swiss TV station SF1, Urs Tinner says he tipped off U.S. intelligence about a delivery of centrifuge parts meant for Libya's nuclear weapons program.

The shipment was seized at the Italian port of Taranto in 2003, forcing Libya to admit and eventually renounce its efforts to acquire nuclear weapons.

The 43-year-old Tinner is suspected, along with his brother Marco and father Friedrich, of supplying Khan's clandestine network with technical know-how and equipment that was used to make gas centrifuges.

Khan — the creator of Pakistan's atomic bomb — sold the centrifuges for secret nuclear weapons programs in countries that included Libya and Iran before his operation was disrupted in 2003.

Tinner was freed by Swiss authorities last month after almost five years in investigative detention and he has yet to be charged.

Tinner's account echoes that of the book "The Nuclear Jihadist," by U.S. investigative reporters Douglas Frantz and Catherine Collins. Frantz says, based on interviews with sources in the U.S. intelligence community, Urs Tinner was recruited by the CIA as early as 2000.

A CIA spokesman, George Little, refused to discuss the Tinner case. The agency has said in the past that "the disruption of the A.Q. Khan network was a genuine intelligence success, one in which the CIA played a key role."

In the Swiss documentary, Tinner also claims he sabotaged equipment destined for uranium enrichment facilities so it would malfunction on first use. He does not say which country the sabotaged parts were destined for.

Former Swiss Justice Minister Christoph Blocher told the SF documentary that he traveled to Washington in 2007 — three years after Urs Tinner's arrest — to discuss the case with then-U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

Blocher says he refused a U.S. request to hand over thousands of files of evidence in the case, but the Swiss Cabinet later decided to shred the files after it learned they contained information that could endanger national security, including nuclear warhead designs.

On Thursday, a parliamentary panel criticized the government for destroying the files, saying there was no immediate danger to Switzerland's internal or external security.

The Swiss government also refused to let federal prosecutors investigate whether the Tinnings had engaged in espionage for a foreign state, a punishable offense.

Urs Tinner is waiting to see whether prosecutors will file charges against him for breaking Swiss laws on the export of sensitive material — a crime that carries a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment.

The federal criminal court in Bellinzona on Thursday ordered Marco Tinner released on a bail of 100,000 Swiss francs (\$87,000), rejecting an appeal by prosecutors to keep him in prison pending a possible trial.

Swiss weekly NZZ am Sonntag reported last month that prosecutors objected to Marco Tinner's release because of concerns he might still possess sensitive information on the construction of nuclear bombs.

Jeanette Balmer, a spokeswoman for the federal prosecutor's office in Bern, refused to comment on the newspaper report.

The International Atomic Energy Agency has said its investigation into the Khan network, which operated in 30 countries, showed that some members possessed highly sensitive information. The information was in electronic form, making it easy to disseminate, and the agency was concerned that some of the documents may still be out in circulation.

Associated Press Writer Balz Bruppacher in Bern, Switzerland, contributed to this report.

<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2009/01/22/europe/EU-Switzerland-Nuclear-Smuggling.php>

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Air Force Times

Strike Command

By Michael Hoffman - Staff writer

Thursday Jan 22, 2009

The Air Force announced Wednesday the six bases where officials are considering stationing the permanent headquarters of Global Strike Command. The six bases are: Barksdale Air Force Base, La., F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., Malmstrom AFB, Mont., Minot AFB, N.D., Offutt AFB, Neb., and Whiteman AFB, Mo.

Five of the six bases have either nuclear bombers or intercontinental nuclear missiles located on their bases, while Offutt is the site of U.S. Strategic Command's headquarters. Minot is the only base that has both nuclear capable bombers — B-52 Stratofortresses — and ICBMs.

Air Force officials said they only considered bases with nuclear missions during the nomination process.

“Co-locating the headquarters on an installation where there are significant operational functions associated with nuclear forces will provide positive synergies for this new command,” said Maj. Gen. C. Donald Alston, Assistant Chief of Staff, Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, in a press release.

Global Strike Command will have all of the Air Force's nuclear missions inside the U.S. organized under it as part of the largest organizational shakeup since Strategic Air Command was disbanded in the early 90s. Its creation was announced in November 2008 as part of the Air Force's Nuclear Roadmap designed to reinvigorate the service's nuclear enterprise after it was embarrassed by two errors that involved nuclear weapons.

The provisional headquarters were stood up at Bolling Air Force Base, Md., on Jan. 12 with plans to stand up the permanent headquarters by September.

Air Force leaders will pick the final location based on the “availability of requisite expertise, facilities and infrastructure, support capacity, transportation and access, communications and bandwidth, and security to support the [Global Strike Command] headquarters,” said Capt. Liz Aptekar, an Air Force spokeswoman, in a press release.

http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2009/01/airforce_GSC_headquarters_012109w/

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Al Jazeera.net

Tuesday, 20 January 2009

China to Expand its Military Reach

China has said it plans to step up the modernisation of its armed forces, expanding the military's global reach, but at the same time calling on the incoming US administration to improve military relations between the two countries.

A government policy report, released on Tuesday, said China's overall security situation had improved but that China's armed forces needed to improve to protect Chinese economic interests around the world.

Looking further to the future, the report said China needed to be prepared for conflicts brought about by increased competition for energy and food.

But the white paper also pointed to three major threats it said China faces now - from separatist movements in Tibet and Xinjiang; and from US arms sale to Taiwan, the self-ruled island which Beijing regards as Chinese territory.

It said the three issues "pose threats to China's unity and security".

'No compromise'

"On this issue, there can be no compromise and no concessions," Hu Changming, a spokesman for the China's defence ministry, said at a news conference in Beijing called to unveil the report.

In a statement, Hu also called on the incoming US president, Barack Obama, to "improve and promote military-to-military relations".

"We call on the US to remove the obstacles to the growth of military relations between the two countries and to create favourable conditions for the healthy growth of military relations," he said.

In recent years the US has been increasingly critical of China's growing military expenditure, saying China needs to be more transparent in its aims to avoid triggering an arms race.

China's test two years ago of an anti-satellite weapon caused particular alarm in Washington, when a land-based missile was used to destroy an obsolete Chinese weather satellite.

The test – which was not confirmed by Beijing until two weeks later – unnerved the US military which relies heavily on satellites to manage its global communications networks.

Arms trade

From China's point of view, US arms sales to Taiwan remain one of its chief concerns and Tuesday's white paper said that blocking the island from formally declaring independence remains the military's top priority.

Last year China's defence minister demanded that Washington cancel a \$6.5bn arms deal with Taiwan that included the sale of advanced Patriot III missiles and Apache helicopters.

In protest at the sale, China cancelled some senior-level visits and other military exchanges.

Tuesday's white paper did not give announce any new spending figures for China's 2.3 million-strong armed forces for the coming year, although analysts expect it to follow recent trends of substantial year-on-year increases.

Last year China announced a military budget of \$59bn, a rise of nearly 18 per cent over the previous year and the eighteenth year of double digit increases.

That has allowed China's military to significantly modernise its equipment and capabilities, adding cutting-edge fighter jets, missiles, submarines and warships to its inventory.

<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/asia-pacific/2009/01/200912092726865304.html>

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Newspost Online, India

20 January 2009

China Issues White Paper on Military Modernization

Posted by hpandey in World News

Xinhua

Beijing, Jan 20 (Xinhua) China Tuesday issued a white paper on national defence, in which it committed itself to peaceful development and military modernisation.

The paper for the first time unveiled China's ambition to "basically accomplish mechanisation (of the military) and make major progress" in information technology by 2020 and "realising modernisation by the mid-21st century".

The white paper "China's National Defence in 2008", issued by the information office of the State Council, is "updated, practical, consistent and systematic", said Chinese defence ministry spokesman Hu Changming at a press conference Tuesday morning.

Vowing to strengthen the military by means of science and technology, the paper said China was working to "develop new and high-tech weaponry and equipment, conduct military training in conditions of information technology and build a modern logistics system in an all-round way".

On China's military guideline for strategic defence, the paper noted it "aimed at winning local wars" in conditions of information technology.

On the current effort to streamline the armed forces, the paper said China aimed at developing a complete set of "scientific modes" of organisation, institutions and ways of operation by 2020.

The paper for the first time specified in detail China's long-standing policy of "no first use of nuclear weapons". "In peacetime, the nuclear missiles of the Second Artillery Force are not aimed at any country", the paper said while reaffirming the country's will to implement "a self-defence nuclear strategy".

"But if China comes under a nuclear threat, the nuclear missile force of the Second Artillery Force will go into a state of alert, and get ready for a nuclear counter attack to deter the enemy from using nuclear weapons against China," the paper said.

The Second Artillery Force is China's name for its core force of strategic deterrence.

Under the direct command of the Central Military Commission, the nuclear-armed force aims to deter a nuclear strike from other countries and to conduct nuclear counter attacks and precision strikes with conventional missiles.

The paper, the sixth of its kind the Chinese government has issued since 1998, gave an overall picture of China's national defence ranging from the security environment, national defence policy, to defence expenditure and arms control.

"The paper has become a window for the world to understand China and its military," said Ci Guowei, deputy director of the foreign affairs office under China's defence ministry.

In the new era, the Chinese military will take "a more open approach" to communicating and exchanging with other militaries in a bid for world peace and stability, Ci said.

Describing China's general security situation as "improving steadily", the 105-page document said: "The situation across the Taiwan Straits has taken a significantly positive turn."

The paper attributed the improvement to the failed attempts of the separatist forces for "Taiwan independence" and the progress made in cross-Straits consultations.

The spokesman called for the two sides to step up contacts and exchanges on military issues "at an appropriate time" and talk about a military mechanism of mutual trust, in a bid to ease military concerns and stabilise cross-Straits relations.

“China is still confronted with long-term, complicated, and diverse security threats and challenges,” the paper said, listing the threats of separatist forces of “Taiwan independence”, “East Turkistan independence” and “Tibet independence”.

“In particular, the US continues to sell arms to Taiwan in violation of the principles established in the three Sino-US joint communiques, causing serious harm to the China-US relations as well as to peace and stability across the Taiwan Straits,” it said.

With US president-elect Barack Obama’s inauguration Tuesday, the spokesman called on the new US administration to take concrete measures to remove the obstacles in the way of military ties.

Xinhua

<http://www.newspostonline.com/world-news/china-issues-white-paper-on-military-modernisation-2009012027416>

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Shanghai Daily

China to Mechanize Military by 2020

Created: 2009-1-20

Author:Li Xinran

CHINA has set the goal of mechanizing its national defense and armed forces by 2020, according to a 2008 white paper on China's National Defense that was publicized today.

The white paper, issued by the Information Office of the State Council, says China has formulated strategic plans to build its national defense and armed forces.

"It will basically accomplish mechanization and make major progress in informationization by 2020. It will achieve the goal of modernization of national defense and armed forces by the mid-21st century," the paper says.

It will make national defense an organic part of its social and economic development.

The white paper says China has implemented a military strategy of active defense. It adheres to the principle of insisting on defensive operations, self-defense and striking and getting the better of the enemy only after the enemy has attacked first.

To implement the strategy, China has formulated a military strategic guideline of active defense.

This guideline aims at speeding up the building of a combat force structure capable of winning local wars in the information era.

It stresses deterring crises and wars. China remains committed to the policy of not using nuclear weapons first and never entering into a nuclear arms race with another country, the paper says.

The guideline focuses on enhancing the capabilities of the armed forces in countering various security threats and accomplishing diversified military tasks.

With raising the capability to win local wars in conditions of the information era at the core, it works to increase the country's capabilities to maintain maritime, space and electromagnetic space security and to carry out the tasks of counter-terrorism, stability maintenance, emergency rescue and international peacekeeping.

The white paper says that China pursues a national defense policy which is purely defensive in nature. China places the protection of national sovereignty, security, territorial integrity, safeguarding of the interests of national development, and the interests of the Chinese people above all else.

The paper for the first time specified in detail China's long-standing policy of "no first use of nuclear weapons."

"In peacetime, the nuclear missile weapons of the Second Artillery Force are not aimed at any country," the paper

said while reaffirming the country's will to implement "a self-defensive nuclear strategy."

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However, "China is still confronted with long-term, complicated, and diverse security threats and challenges," the paper said, listing the threats of separatist forces of "Taiwan independence," "East Turkistan independence" and "Tibet independence."

"In particular, the United States continues to sell arms to Taiwan in violation of the principles established in the three Sino-US joint communiqués, causing serious harm to the Sino-US relations as well as peace and stability across the Taiwan Straits," the paper said.

http://www.shanghaidaily.com/sp/article/2009/200901/20090120/article_388698.htm

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The Moscow Times

U.S. Will Review Missile Shield

19 January 2009

By Andrew Gray / Reuters

WASHINGTON — President-elect Barack Obama's administration will review plans to deploy elements of a U.S. missile shield in Poland and the Czech Republic, Obama's nominee for a top Pentagon post said.

The plan to base 10 interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar station in the Czech Republic has strained relations between Washington and Moscow, which says the system is a threat to Russian security despite U.S. assurances to the contrary.

U.S. officials say such a small number of missiles could easily be overwhelmed by Russia's large arsenal and that the system is aimed at protecting the United States and its allies from "rogue states," particularly Iran.

Michele Flournoy, Obama's nominee to become undersecretary for policy at the Pentagon, said the plans should be reviewed as part of a regular broad look at policy, known as the quadrennial defense review, or QDR, due to take place this year.

Flournoy was questioned on the missile defense plans for Europe at a hearing of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee to consider her nomination late last week.

Committee Chairman Senator Carl Levin asked Flournoy if she believed it would be important to review the plan "in the broader security context of Europe, including our relations with Russia" and other issues.

"Yes, I do, sir," Flournoy replied. "I think that's an important candidate issue for the upcoming QDR."

She did not elaborate, but in a written response to a question from the committee Flournoy said she believed it would be in the United States' interest if Washington and Moscow could agree to cooperate on missile defense.

"The final contours of such an approach would require close consultations between the administration and Congress," she said.

The administration of U.S. President George W. Bush offered Russia cooperation on missile defense, but Moscow rejected the offer as insufficient.

U.S. officials say construction at the sites in Poland and the Czech Republic could begin this year and the system could become operational between 2011 and 2013.

Obama has said he supports missile defense in general but that it should be developed pragmatically and cost-effectively and with assurances that the technology works.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who will stay in office under Obama, also backs missile defense.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/article/1010/42/373644.htm>

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The Times of India
21 January 2009

BrahMos Missile Test Fails After Early 'Success'

Rajat Pandit, TNN

NEW DELHI: The Army's endeavour to induct the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile as "a precision-strike weapon" took a hit on Tuesday, with the missile failing to achieve laid-down parameters in a test.

This comes at a time when the Pakistan Army is galloping ahead in inducting its nuclear-capable Babur land-attack cruise missile (LACM) - developed with China's help to have a strike range of over 500 km - in large numbers into its arsenal.

Initially, the BrahMos LACM test from the Pokhran field firing range at 10.23am on Tuesday was touted as "successful" by defence ministry officials. But later in the day, this newspaper learnt that it had been quite unsuccessful.

Top defence officials were, however, still reluctant to dub the test, which was witnessed by Army chief General Deepak Kapoor, as "a complete failure".

"BrahMos is a unique missile, which has been tested flawlessly almost 20 times till now. On Tuesday, we were test-firing it with a new guidance scheme...it was not successful. Further trials are required," said an official, reluctant to say anything more.

Sources said it was likely that the BrahMos missile, which flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach, tested on Tuesday had been configured to carry a nuclear warhead rather than a conventional one.

The Army already has missile groups to handle the 150-km Prithvi, 700-800-km Agni-I and 2000-km-plus Agni-II ballistic missiles, which are nuclear-capable.

On its part, Army has ordered two BrahMos regiments in the first phase at a cost of Rs 8,352 crore, with 134 missiles, 10 road-mobile autonomous launchers on 12x12 Tatra vehicles, four mobile command posts and the like, said sources.

The Navy, in turn, has ordered 49 BrahMos firing units at a cost of Rs 711 crore for now. All the tests of the BrahMos naval version, both anti-ship and land-attack ones, have been successful till now.

BrahMos was even fired successfully from a vertical launcher - the earlier tests were from "inclined" launchers - fitted on Rajput-class destroyer INS Ranvir in Bay of Bengal last month.

The "universal vertical launcher" is significant since it imparts the missile system with some stealth as well as the capability to be fired in any direction. It also paves the way for the integration of BrahMos missiles on submarines.

Even as India and Russia begin preliminary work on a "hypersonic" BrahMos-2 missile capable of flying at a speed between 5 and 7 Mach, two Indian Sukhoi-30MKI fighters have also been sent to Russia for integration with BrahMos' air-launched version.

The armed forces' eventual plan, of course, is to have nuclear-tipped LACMs, with strike ranges in excess of 1,500 km. Unlike ballistic missiles, cruise missiles do not leave the atmosphere and are powered and guided throughout their flight path.

Cruise missiles, which can evade enemy radars and air defence systems since they fly at low altitudes, are also much cheaper as well as more accurate and easier to operate.

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Land-attack_BrahMos_cruise_missile_successfully_test-fired_in_Pokhran/articleshow/4006146.cms

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GlobalSecurityNewswire.org

Indian Missile Misses Target in Test

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009

An Indian supersonic missile missed its target in a test yesterday, though New Delhi initially claimed that the launch was a "total success," Agence France-Presse reported (see *GSN*, Nov. 12, 2008).

The Brahmos cruise missile was developed by Russia and India, which intend to eventually sell the weapon to other nations.

"The missile performance was absolutely normal till the last phase, but it missed the target, though it maintained the direction," the Press Trust of India quoted Brahmos program chief Sivathanu Pillai as saying.

The 26-foot missile was designed to travel up to 180 miles from a land-, air- or sea-based launcher. The weapon was originally engineered to carry a conventional warhead (Agence France-Presse/Google News, Jan. 21); however, the *Times of India* reported that the missile launched yesterday was modified to accommodate a nuclear warhead.

"Brahmos is a unique missile, which has been tested flawlessly almost 20 times till now. On Tuesday, we were test-firing it with a new guidance scheme [and] it was not successful. Further trials are required," one official said (Rajat Pandit, *Times of India*, Jan. 21).

Pillai added that "new software used for this mission will be revalidated through extensive simulations and a flight trial will be carried out in a month's time to prove the augmented capabilities of the missile" (AFP).

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090121_5676.php

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London Times

January 21, 2009

'7/7 Bombings Suspect' Arrested in Pakistan

SEAN O'NEILL AND ZAHID HUSSAIN

An al-Qaeda operative arrested in Pakistan was allegedly involved in the planning of the July 7 suicide attacks in London, security sources in Islamabad claimed tonight.

Pakistani officials said Zabi ul Taifi had been detained in Bara near the city of Peshawar which is a major transit hub for mujahidin fighters and supplies.

They said that Mr ul Taifi, an Arab, was one of seven men held and was wanted in connection with the planning of 7/7 and a number of other terror attacks.

But British police and security sources denied any knowledge of the suspect or the operation which led to his arrest.

One source said: "There are people we are looking for in connection with the attacks but this name is not familiar."

The suicide bombings on July 7 2005 killed 52 passengers on the London Transport network and left more than 700 people injured.

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article5562542.ece>

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International Herald Tribune

Gadhafi says US Should Seek Peace with bin Laden

The Associated Press

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

WASHINGTON: Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi has a seemingly unthinkable suggestion for new U.S. President Barack Obama: give Osama bin Laden a chance to make peace.

Gadhafi, who is known for outspoken comments, told an audience of Georgetown University students by videoconference Wednesday that bin Laden has shown signs that he is open to dialogue. He recommended that Obama seek an opening with the terrorist leader who is considered enemy number one in the United States for ordering the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

"I think Osama bin Laden is a person who can be given a chance," he said in Arabic through an interpreter. "Maybe he wants peace."

Relations between Libya and the United States have warmed since Gadhafi renounced terrorism in 2003 and gave up efforts to develop nuclear weapons. The move ended years of international isolation, though Gadhafi denied in his rambling address Wednesday that his country had ever been isolated.

The talk with students was organized by the university's contemporary Arab studies center and two student groups. It focused on Gadhafi's proposal that Israelis and Palestinians should join in a single democratic state that he has called "Isratine."

Gadhafi said the single-state solution is in Israel's interests because it would always face strife in the Middle East. He said that he supported the right of Jews to remain, but said that the world should give up on a solution that involves separate states.

"If you want to preserve this group, the Jews as an ethnic group, Palestine is not really the right place. The Middle East is a sea of Arabs," he said. "Take them to Alaska or Honolulu or the Hawaiian islands or the Pacific islands and they can live peacefully in an isolated setting."

In a statement issued before the talk, Georgetown University President John DeGoia said that he supported the invitation to Gadhafi, but he also harshly criticized the Libyan leader.

"He is, frankly, a dictator known for decades of shocking brutality, state-sponsored terror, supporting violent insurgents in other countries and, in recent years, positive actions like destroying the country's weapons of mass destruction and voicing opposition to al-Qaida," he said.

Georgetown said that the decision had been criticized by Libyans in exile and family members of the victims of the 1988 Pan Am airplane bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland that killed 270 people. Libya accepted responsibility for the bombing and agreed to compensate family members and those of a 1986 attack on a disco in Berlin.

Asked by a student if he would apologize to family members during the videoconference, Gadhafi demurred.

"My son, my son, this file has been closed," he said. "There is no sense in grave digging."

Gadhafi also said that Libya was suffering from the rapid fall in global oil prices and is discussing nationalization of foreign oil assets.

"We hope that the prices will go up again, say to \$100 a barrel, so that this idea would be discarded, to stop this idea of calling for nationalization," he said.

<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2009/01/21/america/NA-US-Libya.php>

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