

## Contents

<i>Section</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Introduction . . . . .	3
2. Booster Characteristics . . . . .	7
3. Directed Energy Weapon Concepts for Boost Phase Intercept . . . . .	15
3.1 Space-Based Chemical Lasers: A First Example . . . . .	16
3.2 Ground-Based Lasers With Space-Based Mirrors . . . . .	22
3.3 Nuclear Bomb-Pumped X-Ray Lasers: Orbital and Pop-Up Systems . . . . .	24
3.4 Space-Based Particle Beams . . . . .	28
3.5 Space-Based Kinetic Energy Weapons . . . . .	32
3.6 Microwave Generators . . . . .	35
3.7 Other Concepts . . . . .	36
4. Other Essential Elements of a Boost-Phase Intercept System . . . . .	39
4.1 Target Sensing . . . . .	39
4.2 Aiming and Pointing . . . . .	40
4.3 Intercept Confirmation . . . . .	40
4.4 Command and Control . . . . .	41
4.5 Self-Defense . . . . .	41
4.6 Power Sources . . . . .	42
5. Countermeasures to Boost-Phase Intercept . . . . .	45
5.1 Anti-Satellite (ASAT) Attack, Including Directed-Energy Offense . . . . .	46
5.2 Fast-Burn Boosters . . . . .	48
5.3 Counter C <sup>3</sup> I Tactics . . . . .	48
5.4 Shielding . . . . .	49
5.5 Decoys . . . . .	50
5.6 Salvo Rate . . . . .	50
5.7 Offensive Buildup . . . . .	51
5.8 New Targeting Plans . . . . .	51
5.9 Other Means of Delivering Nuclear Weapons . . . . .	52
6. A Word on "Old" BMD and "New" BMD . . . . .	55
7. A Hypothetical System Architecture . . . . .	59
7.1 System Description . . . . .	60
7.2 Assessment . . . . .	61
8. Defensive Goals I: The Perfect Defense . . . . .	65
8.1 Nuclear Attack on Society . . . . .	66
8.2 The Prospects for a Perfect Defense . . . . .	67
9. Defensive Goals II: Less-Than-Perfect Defense . . . . .	73
9.1 Goals for Less-Than-Perfect Defense . . . . .	73
9.2 Side Effects of BMD Deployment . . . . .	77
10. Principal judgments and Observations . . . . .	81
<i>Appendix</i>	
A. Excerpt From President Reagan's Television Speech, March 23, 1983 . . . . .	85
B. The ABM Treaty and Related Documents . . . . .	87
C. Other Applications of Directed Energy Weapons . . . . .	97