

SCOMM

115:9

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Chair:
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Member:
JUDICIARY
COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS
LABOR AND COMMERCE



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HOUSE BILL 77 JOINT ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE SPONSOR STATEMENT

Alaska is being considered as the site, for the deployment of a National Missile Defense System. The Pentagon and the Secretary of Defense recently stated that another round of Base Realignments and Closures are forthcoming. Because of these challenges, I have introduced House Bill 77.

House Bill 77 would replace the existing Joint Committee on Military Bases in Alaska established in ch. 31, SLA 1998 with the Joint Armed Services Committee. Similarly, the Joint Armed Services Committee would have an existence longer than called for in the Uniform Rules, Rules 21(b) & (c). In fact this would be a permanent interim committee so that members may be activated year round. The committee would be activated on July 1, 1999 and the Legislative Council would provide administrative and other services to the Committee.

This committee would provide a unified front by House, Senate, Military and Civilian members to monitor timely military topics relative to Alaska. Furthermore, it would review and encourage state policies to ensure the continued well being and education of members of the armed forces, both active and reserve components.

(The military in Alaska accounts for approximately \$1.7 billion of Alaska's economy.) We are in the crux of two swaying forces with regard to our military – the potential creation of new sites for a National Missile Defense and possible consolidation of existing operations. These processes require considerable and constant attention. It is imperative that the Legislature takes a leading role to monitor the economic impact of future military related events. The Joint Armed Services Committee will provide that focus.

No independent fiscal note at this time. Any expenditures are monies available from Leg Council and at their discretion

*no new general funds
working w/ Senate to arrive a details
for fiscal note re per diem, travel*

1-LS0413D

Cook

2/24/99

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 77(FIN)**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA****TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION****BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE****Offered:****Referred:****Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MURKOWSKI, Foster, Kott, Harris, Mulder, Phillips****A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the Joint Armed Services Committee, a permanent interim
2 committee of the Alaska State Legislature; and providing for an effective date."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.** The legislature finds that

- 5 (1) the Secretary of Defense, in both the Quadrennial Defense Review and the
6 Defense Reform Initiative, has called for the reestablishment of a Base Realignment and
7 Closure Commission to conduct two new rounds of military base closures;
- 8 (2) all military bases in Alaska are scheduled for review and evaluation for
9 potential placement on the closure list;
- 10 (3) the strategic location of the state's military bases, their unparalleled training
11 and maneuver areas, and their modern facilities represent an asset of unmatched military value
12 to the nation;
- 13 (4) the total economic value that the military adds to the state exceeds
14 \$1,700,000,000 annually;

1 (5) any new base closure or realignment actions in the state would create
2 serious economic and socioeconomic effects for the communities where they are located;

3 (6) the closure of Adak Naval Air Facility and realignment of army activities
4 at Fort Greely by the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission continues to create
5 challenges for communities committed to their productive reuse and integration into the state's
6 economy;

7 (7) the unprecedented proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic
8 missiles constitutes a growing threat to the United States, which has begun to develop a
9 weapons system capable of defending the nation against ballistic missile attack;

10 (8) sites in Alaska are under consideration for the deployment of that system
11 that offer the unmatched military value of strategic location from which all 50 states can be
12 defended as required by the United States Constitution; and

13 (9) as our nation's armed forces continue to shift from a forward deployed
14 force based overseas to a power projection force stationed within the United States, Alaska's
15 modern bases, extensive training areas, and established tradition of joint operations between
16 the individual services offer the United States Department of Defense an unequalled location
17 to organize, train, and deploy the integrated forces the United States requires in the Twenty-
18 First Century.

19 * Sec. 2. AS 24.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

20 **Article 5. Joint Armed Services Committee.**

21 **Sec. 24.20.650. Joint Armed Services Committee established.** (a) The Joint
22 Armed Services Committee is established as a permanent interim committee of the
23 legislature.

24 (b) The committee is composed of

25 (1) five members of the senate, at least one of whom is a member of
26 the minority, appointed by the president of the senate;

27 (2) five members of the house of representatives, at least one of whom
28 is a member of the minority, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

29 (3) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who
30 is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
31 representatives after considering the recommendations of the Alaska chapters of each

1 of the following organizations:

2 (A) the Association of the United States Army;

3 (B) the Air Force Association;

4 (C) the Navy League of the United States;

5 (D) the Marine Corps Association;

6 (4) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who
7 is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
8 representatives after considering the recommendation of the Seventeenth Coast Guard
9 District Auxiliary;

10 (5) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who
11 is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
12 representatives after considering the recommendation of the mayor of the Municipality
13 of Anchorage;

14 (6) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who
15 is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
16 representatives after considering the recommendation of the mayor of the Fairbanks
17 North Star Borough; and

18 (7) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who
19 is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
20 representatives after considering the recommendation of the adjutant general of the
21 Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs.

22 **Sec. 24.20.655. Terms of office; vacancies.** (a) Each legislative member
23 serves for the duration of the legislature during which the member is appointed. Each
24 public member serves for three years. An individual who has served on the committee
25 may be reappointed.

26 (b) A legislator ceases to be a member of the Joint Armed Services Committee
27 if the legislator ceases to be a member of the house from which the legislator was
28 appointed. When a seat on the committee becomes vacant, it shall be filled within 30
29 days in the manner of the original appointment. An individual appointed to fill a
30 vacancy serves for the remainder of the term to which appointed.

31 **Sec. 24.20.660. Travel and per diem allowances.** Members of the Joint

1 Armed Services Committee are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses.
2 Members of the committee shall receive per diem allowances in accordance with the
3 policy adopted by the legislative council under AS 24.10.130(c).

4 **Sec. 24.20.665. Meetings.** (a) Eight members of the Joint Armed Services
5 Committee constitute a quorum.

6 (b) The committee members shall select one member from the senate and one
7 member from the house of representatives to serve as co-chairs of the committee.

8 (c) The committee may meet during sessions of the legislature and during
9 intervals between sessions at the times and places the co-chairs may determine.
10 Whenever possible, meetings shall be teleconferenced to reduce travel cost.

11 **Sec. 24.20.670. Administration.** The legislative council shall provide
12 administrative and other services to the Joint Armed Services Committee. Within the
13 limits of the amounts made available to the committee by the legislative council, the
14 committee may make expenditures and enter into contracts to carry out the purposes
15 of AS 24.20.650 - 24.20.675. Contracts must be approved by a majority of the
16 members of the committee and are otherwise subject to procedures adopted by the
17 legislative council under AS 36.30.020.

18 **Sec. 24.20.675. Powers and duties.** (a) The Joint Armed Services Committee
19 shall

20 (1) monitor the military base realignment and closure activities of the
21 federal government for bases in the state;

22 (2) work on specific realignments and closures proposed by the federal
23 government for bases in the state;

24 (3) work with the state's congressional delegation regarding federal
25 military base realignments and closings in the state;

26 (4) attend meetings and hearings related to federal realignments and
27 closures of military bases in the state and provide testimony as necessary;

28 (5) review the effect on the state and its communities of federal
29 realignments and closures of military bases in the state;

30 (6) monitor the development of the national ballistic missile defense
31 system and work with the congressional delegation of the state, other state and local

1 government organizations, and community groups to advocate and expedite the
2 deployment of the system in this state;

3 (7) investigate opportunities to increase joint and combined military
4 training in the state;

5 (8) advocate the stationing of reconfigured power projection forces at
6 bases located in the state; and

7 (9) prepare and submit a report of its activities to the legislature on the
8 first day of each second regular session.

9 (b) The committee may appoint a citizens' advisory board. Individuals
10 appointed to an advisory board may not receive reimbursement for travel expenses or
11 per diem allowances.

12 * Sec. 3. AS 24.20.650, 24.20.655, 24.20.660, 24.20.665, 24.20.670, and 24.20.675 are
13 repealed January 1, 2009.

14 * Sec. 4. Section 1 of this Act is repealed January 1, 2009.

15 * Sec. 5. Chapter 31, SLA 1998, is repealed.

16 * Sec. 6. This Act takes effect July 1, 1999.

Anchorage Daily News

Friday, February 26, 1999

Prime agenda

By Times editorial staff

A freshman member of the state House, Lisa Murkowski, has come up with a proposal that some of the older Juneau hands should have thought of a long time ago.

The Anchorage Republican has introduced legislation to create what she calls the Joint Armed Services Committee for Alaska. Under her proposal, the committee would be composed of 15 members - five selected from the state House, five from the state Senate, one member from the active military, one Coast Guard representative and three civilians.

Said Murkowski: "Alaska must be proactive with regard to the National Ballistic Missile Defense System proposal, ensuring that Alaska, along with the entire nation, is protected."

One of the biggest concerns is what might come from new meetings of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission. Earlier work by the commission led to the closure of the Adak Naval Air Facility and Fort Greely in Delta Junction.

"We will work hard to maintain our military forces in Alaska," Murkowski said. "A continued military presence is vital to Alaska, both strategically and in its overall economic contributions to our communities."

A further assignment for the committee, should it be established, would be to work for expansion of military training sites in Alaska. This state is without equal in providing the armed forces with the space they need to hone combat skills.

This bill needs quick and favorable action.

October 14, 1998, Wednesday, PM cycle

SECTION: State and Regional

LENGTH: 364 words

HEADLINE: Hull creating new commission on preserving military bases

BYLINE: By PAUL DAVENPORT, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: PHOENIX

BODY:

Gov. Jane Hull is creating a new state task force to work at preserving Arizona's military installations from the threat of possible closure.

Mrs. Hull scheduled an afternoon news conference in Tucson to announce she was signing an executive order creating the task force aimed at preserving the bases, spokeswoman Francie Noyes said this morning.

Members of the task force will include the governor, legislative leaders as well as legislators, mayors, county supervisors and business leaders from areas with bases, Noyes said.

Some of the areas already have support groups but not all, and the new task force is intended to boost base-preservation efforts statewide, she said.

Arizona lost one major installation, Williams Air Force Base in the Phoenix area, as the Pentagon began closing bases in the wake of the end of the Cold War.

Major air bases in Arizona include Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Luke Air Force Base in Glendale and the Marine Corps Air Station at Yuma. Other major installations include the Barry M. Goldwater Air Force Range east of Yuma, Fort Huachuca in Sierra Vista and the Yuma Proving Ground.

The Clinton administration has urged additional base closures to save money that could be used instead for military operations and training and for equipment purchases, but Congress has balked so far.

Cirillo said he saw no problem in Mrs. Hull creating another commission. "I see them working together," said Sen. Edward Cirillo, R-Sun City West. "I don't see it as stepping on our toes in this very important area."

Cirillo said his panel may propose legislation to authorize counties to create agricultural preservation districts that would pay farmers in return for restricting development on farmland near air bases.

The Associated Press State & Local Wire, October 14, 1998

While converting farmland to light industrial uses would not be a problem, building new homes there could produce noise complaints that would be a black mark against the base if and when more closures are considered.

Cirillo said an alternative to paying for development restrictions might be to trade state land elsewhere for the farmland so a farmer retiring from the business can get his money out of the land.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: October 14, 1998

THE DEFENSE COMMUNITY IN TEXAS:

A Master Plan For The Future

FOR THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS, THE SEVENTY-SIXTH TEXAS LEGISLATURE,
AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
1998-1999

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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TEXAS STRATEGIC MILITARY PLANNING COMMISSION

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

TEXAS MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TEXAS: IT'S LIKE A WHOLE OTHER COUNTRY
TEXAS DEFENSE COMMUNITY
BASE REALIGNMENTS AND CLOSURES
OPERATIONAL AND BUDGET DECISIONS
EFFECT ON DEFENSE BUSINESS
PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER ONE: SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE

FINDINGS
RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER TWO: TEXAS AND THE MILITARY

FINDINGS
Reducing Costs
Military Value
Quality of Life
Financing Texas' Military Posture
RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER THREE: DEFENSE-RELATED BUSINESS

FINDINGS
RECOMMENDATIONS

APPENDIX 1: ASSESSMENT

Army Installations
Navy Activities
Air Force Activities

APPENDIX 2

[back to Defense menu](#)

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House presses for missile defense

Armed Services panel approves measure declaring system a national goal

By TOM RAUM
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A House committee overwhelmingly approved legislation Thursday that declared a national goal to deploy a countrywide defense system against ballistic missiles but did not set a timetable to do it.

The House Armed Services Committee approved the measure, introduced by Reps. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., and John Spratt, D-S.C., by a 50-3 margin.

President Clinton has included money in his fiscal 1999 budget for beginning construction of such a system but has delayed until June 2000 a decision on whether to go ahead.

"I am encouraged by the administration's announcement that an additional \$6.6 billion has been identified for a national missile defense that might be deployed. But I am concerned that the ad-

ministration has not committed to deploying this system," Weldon said.

Such a system, to protect against incoming nuclear missiles, has long been a favored project of congressional Republicans since President Reagan proposed a space-based shield against incoming missiles in the early 1980s.

Last year's firing of a ballistic missile by North Korea and reports of weapons programs in Iran and Iraq has drawn Democratic support to the program as well.

The committee vote "represents an important step in the debate over defending the American people against the threat of ballistic missile attack," said the committee chairman, Floyd Spence, R-S.C.

Spence said the vote's margin "reflects the committee's strong bipartisan belief that all Americans deserve to be protected against the

growing threat of ballistic missile attack."

Voting against the measure were committee Democrats Wayne Evans of Illinois, Cynthia McKinney of Georgia and Tom Allen of Maine.

The measure does not attempt to set a timetable or mandate the kind of missile defense system that should be built.

The measure, which has 30 Republican and 28 Democratic sponsors, states simply "that it is the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense."

The bill is headed for expected early action by the full House.

A Senate version by Sens. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., and Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, could come to the Senate floor in early March. It declares national policy to deploy an anti-missile defense "as soon as technologically possible."

Even though it would not compel Clinton to act, the administration has threatened to veto the Senate version.

The Pentagon is studying four sites for the missile system in Alaska: Fort Wainwright, Fort Greely, Clear Air Force Station and Eielson Air Force Base. Two sites in North Dakota also are under consideration.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the legislation could undermine efforts by the United States to negotiate with Moscow changes in the 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty.

That treaty restricts both nations' abilities to build missile defense systems.

"Enactment of this legislation clearly would be interpreted by Russia that the United States is not interested in working toward a cooperative solution," she said Wednesday.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON MILITARY BASES
1998 COMMITTEE MINUTES

MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

March 30, 1999

HB 356 - JOINT TASK FORCE ON MILITARY BASES

Number 1875

CHAIR MASEK announced the next order of business would be HB 356, "An Act establishing the Joint Committee on Military Bases in Alaska; and providing for an effective date," sponsored by Representative Mulder.

REPRESENTATIVE MULDER informed the committee that the Senate has a counter measure that reflects the same legislation. A concern was raised, at the previous hearing on the bill, in relation to the fiscal note. He said he would propose that the committee adopt the Senate companion fiscal note to CSSB 255, which is dramatically pared down. He stated it was his intention to pare the fiscal note down when the bill came to the House Finance Committee, but he is more than willing to do it at this point in time.

CHAIR MASEK questioned if that was a motion.

REPRESENTATIVE MULDER responded, "Consider it a motion. So moved, Madam Chairman."

CHAIR MASEK asked if there was any debate or comments regarding HB 356. There were no comments.

Number 1923

REPRESENTATIVE RYAN made a motion to move CSHB 356(MLV) out of committee with the accompanying fiscal notes and with individual recommendations. There being no objection, CSHB 356(MLV) moved out of the House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs.

FINANCE

An Act establishing the Joint Committee on Military Bases in Alaska; and providing for an effective date."

TIM SULLIVAN, STAFF, REPRESENTATIVE ELDON MULDER, testified that HB 356 would establish a Joint House and Senate Committee on military bases in Alaska. The committee would monitor the activities of a new Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) and would work to strengthen the military presence in Alaska. In the case of reauthorizing, the BRAC process would work with the Military, the Administration and the affected community in order to protect our bases from closure.

Mr. Sullivan stated that the joint committee would have an existence longer than that called for in the Uniform Rules, Rules 21 (b) & (c), because of the reactivation of the federal BRAC Commission. Creating the joint committee for longer than the duration of the current 20th Legislature would require a change in statute. It could not be done by means of a concurrent resolution, hence the bill. The joint committee would expire on the date in which the 22nd Legislature convenes. The time frame corresponds with the activity period of federal BRAC which will be reviewing all military facilities in North America for justification of their continued existence.

Mr. Sullivan indicated that the attention by the federal BRAC given to Alaska bases, presents a considerable challenge and necessitates vigilance and a strong unified response from the Legislature. The military establishment in Alaska accounts for approximately \$1.7 billion general fund dollars. In addition, the base closures experienced to date, have shown that the process requires considerable attention on the part of State government to monitor the economic impact and the reuse potential. The joint committee could provide that focus.

Mr. Sullivan noted that the work draft reflected a couple of clean-up measures.

Representative Mulder commented that without a state BRAC, the U.S. military would try to close at least one military installation in Alaska. He suggested that the process was political. Representative Mulder recommended that the Committee adopt a new House Finance Committee fiscal note to replace the note passed from the Senate Finance Committee.

Co-Chair Therriault asked what the time-line would be for the committee. Representative Mulder replied that it would cover the next three interim sessions.

Representative Mulder MOVED that work draft, 0-LS1436\H, Bannister, 3/28/98, be the version before the Committee. There being NO OBJECTION, it was adopted.

Representative J. Davies MOVED a conceptual amendment to Page 2, Line 11 and 13, with the insertion of language: "two from the majority and one from the minority". There being NO OBJECTION, it was adopted.

Representative Kohring MOVED to report CS HB 356 (FIN) out of Committee with individual recommendations and with the new fiscal note. There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered.

CS HB 356 (FIN) was reported out of Committee with a "do pass" recommendation and with a fiscal note by the House Finance Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NO.

BILL VERSION:

HB 77

PUBLISH DATE:

Revision Date: _____
Title: "An Act relating to the Joint Armed
Services Committee, a permanent interim committee...
Sponsor: Representative Murkowski
Requestor: House Special Committee on MLV

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency

BRU: All

Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

The expenses of the Joint Armed Services Committee will be absorbed within the
Legislature's budget.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director

Division: Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3852

Date: 2/9/99

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director

Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Date: 2/9/99

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).

only by the adoption of a simple resolution. The presiding officer of each house appoints the members of a special committee and designates a member to chair the special committee unless otherwise ordered by the house. The persons who chair like committees of each house may arrange for the committees to meet jointly to receive testimony and deal with other matters which may be expedited by joint committee action.

→ (b) A joint committee is a committee of both houses. A joint committee may be established only by the adoption of a concurrent resolution. The presiding officer of each house appoints one-half of the members of a joint committee. The persons who co-chair a joint committee shall be chosen in the manner provided by the presiding officers.

→ (c) A resolution establishing a special or joint committee shall specify the date or conditions of termination of the committee. A standing committee may meet between sessions. A special or joint committee may meet during the session or between sessions, or both, as authorized by the resolution which establishes the committee. A standing, special, or joint committee which acts between legislative sessions may consider any legislative matter which is consistent with the jurisdiction of the committee. A standing, special, or joint committee which acts between legislative sessions constitutes a subcommittee of the Legislative Council for administrative purposes. A special or joint committee may expend money only in accordance with an appropriation made for the work of the committee.

(d) A committee may not be established unless authorized by law or by the Uniform Rules.

OPEN AND EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

RULE 22. OPEN AND EXECUTIVE SESSIONS. (a) All meetings of a legislative body are open to all legislators, whether or not they are members of the particular legislative body that is meeting, and to the general public except as provided in (b) of this rule.

(b) A legislative body may call an executive session at which members of the general public may be excluded for the following reasons:

(1) discussion of matters, the immediate knowledge of which would adversely affect the finances of a government unit;

(2) discussion of subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of a person;

(3) discussion of a matter that may, by law, be required to be

BASE REALIGNMENTS AND CLOSURES
BACKGROUND

ADN 3 MAY 98

Anchorage Daily News

BASES: Air Force mulls cuts

Continued from Page A-1

Air Force considers base cuts

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Air Force's top general wants to create a handful of "superbases" in the United States by bolstering some and paring down or closing others.

"This is an urgent issue," Gen. Michael Ryan said in an interview. "We need to reorganize ourselves. We need to get rid of excess infrastructure."

The pressure in recent years of establishing bases at overseas crisis points — Bosnia, the Middle East, Africa — has resulted in domestic bases being "stretched too thin," Ryan said.

And while Air Force combat units are designed to deploy at a moment's notice, the cooks, engineers, medical personnel, military police and other units that keep bases hum-

Please see Back Page, BASES

ming aren't organized for immediate assignment abroad.

So the general is looking at consolidating such support units at four to six bases in the United States. He would not specify them, saying he's asked his staff for a "template" of which bases should grow and which should be slimmed or closed. He also is considering organizing combat units into "expeditionary" forces to rotate responsibility for overseas deployments, allowing personnel to count on time at home with their families, he said.

But he stressed the Air Force needs to close bases, and that is a suggestion that sends chills through communities across the nation and has been rejected by many lawmakers on Capitol Hill. The service has 67 major bases in the United States and 14 abroad.

"This isn't easy, but it's necessary," Ryan said.

Alaska, which traces its growth to World War II-era buildups, has closely monitored any announcements of reductions and base closings. The state's argument in favor of no change here is based partly on Alaska's strategic position as an air crossroads to the Pacific.

In the aftermath of the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia in 1996 that claimed 19 airmen, bases at home and abroad are creating special security teams to counter possible terrorist threats. Bigger bases would make that process easier to absorb.

"We are spread so thin across our bases that when you take a 44-man security force team off the base it's a big whack out of the security force on the base, and everybody starts working twice as hard," Ryan said. Such Air Force units both at home and abroad work 12-hour shifts. "We have to fix that," he said.

The general lauded the Navy and the Marine Corps for consolidating support units at a few bases, moves made in base-closure rounds in 1993 and 1995. Those services "have it about right," Ryan said. "When they leave a port, they do not strip their support out of the home bases to put it on the ships."

"We've been doing this for eight years now, and it is really wearing on the force," he said.

In the past, the Air Force was designed to be much bigger and structured to "surge" its forces forward into battle against the enemy — relying to a great extent on allied bases with supplies ready to offer arriving combat units.

The post-Cold War draw-down is responsible for some of the manpower problem. Over the past 10 years, the service has plummeted from 607,000 members to 371,000 men and women this year, a cut of about 40 percent. But since the base closure process began in 1988, only 17 Air Force bases have been closed and 16 realigned, a cut estimated by the Air Force of about 21 percent.

The general's "superbase" proposal dovetails with that of Defense Secretary William Cohen, who has been pressing Congress for two additional rounds of base closures and getting the cold shoulder in return. Cohen has told lawmakers that uniformed leaders support his conclusions on the need for base closures. In last week's interview, Ryan gave a rare look at the issue from the military perspective.

Cohen argues the military must cut back on unneeded bases to keep troops ready to go to war and to glean long-term savings for updating weaponry for the next century.

Last week on Capitol Hill, the secretary warned that closures will not result in "a reduction in the quality of life of our men and women in uniform, a reduction in the readiness of our forces or a cutback rather significantly in our procurement plans."

Gen. Michael Dugan, a Ryan predecessor as Air Force chief of staff, said Ryan's move to close bases is imperative.

"We are not getting the bang for our buck," Dugan said. He added he sees little chance Congress will allow such shutdowns.

Close bases or else

Air Force chief prods Congress

By MICHAEL D. TOWLE
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

ORLANDO, Fla. — Acting Air Force Secretary Whitten Peters warned Friday that he might close military bases on his own authority if Congress ignores Pentagon requests for another round of base closures.

Peters told an annual gathering of top Air Force officers that failure to close unnecessary bases would make it more difficult to come up with money to pay for new weapons programs and to improve the lives of service personnel.

But lawmakers have traditionally protected military facilities in their home districts. They are very reluctant to set up another round of cutbacks under the Base Closure and Realignment Commission, a civilian panel set up by Congress in 1988 to remove closure decisions from the political arena.

"I have another way of closing bases and it is truly ugly," Peters said. "I can close bases without BRAC right now, and the result would be runways left pockmarked, buildings which are rundown, no economic redevelopment and no significant environmental cleanup."

"I can do that today, but that is essentially equivalent

Please see Page A-4, BASES

BASES: Warning to Congress

Continued from Page A-1

on a community and that is not what we ought to be doing. We ought to be looking for a fair way to do that that provides for economic development and provides for environmental cleanup."

The base-closing commission, devised by House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas, has led to the closure of nearly 100 military installations as the Soviet Union collapsed and the Cold War ended.

Peters said that the four previous rounds of base closings, the last in 1995, saved a total of \$5.6 billion.

"To put that in perspective, \$5.6 billion equates to a three-squadron wing of F-22s and Joint Strike Fighters," Peters said, referring to two new fighter plane programs.

But the White House and Congress are at odds over additional base closings. Republican lawmakers have accused President Clinton of interfering in a 1995 decision by the commission to close McClellan Air Force Base near Sacramento, Calif., and Kelly Air Force Base at San Antonio.

Since then, GOP members and many Democrats have said they would balk at closing bases, a politically difficult exercise even with the Clinton administration and the Republican-controlled Congress committed to balancing the federal budget.

Peters' remarks were the toughest to date from the Clinton administration. The president, in his 1999 defense budget, asked Congress to consider base closing rounds in 2001 and 2005. The administration says it can save \$3 billion by closing more bases.

But lawmakers complain that Clinton's promise during the 1996 presidential campaign to privatize Kelly and McClellan amounted to him injecting politics into the closure process. GOP members say they don't want another BRAC, but instead would like the Pentagon to find another system for closing bases.

NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM
BACKGROUND

The Anchorage Times

Publisher: BILL J. ALLEN

"Believing in Alaskans, putting Alaska first"

Editors: DENNIS FRADLEY PAUL JENKINS WILLIAM J. TOBIN

The Anchorage Times' Commentary in this segment of the Anchorage Daily News does not represent the views of the Daily News. It is written and published under an agreement with former owners of The Times, in the interests of preserving a diversity of viewpoints in the community.

Incoming missiles

AN EDITORIAL in the Boston Herald a few days ago summed it up this way: "North Korea soon will have a missile that can reach Alaska and Hawaii."

That should be enough to get the attention of every Alaskan.

Not just the Boston newspaper has reached this alarming conclusion. All over America, the word is spreading that the United States has no in-place defense against a missile aimed at any target in this country.

In Anchorage just a few weeks ago, distinguished civilian and military scientists and defense experts brought the peril into dramatic focus. Panelists appearing at a conference sponsored by the Institute of the North offered sobering data on the lack of a national defense system and frightening information on the increasing danger from missiles in North Korea and other countries of its ilk.

Astonishingly, the Anchorage Daily News provided only meager coverage of this seminar that dealt with the defense of the United States. One of its columnists went so far as to ridicule the meeting and former Gov. Walter J. Hickel, its prime sponsor. He snickered that the affair failed to present the other side — presumably the proposition that Alaska and the U.S. should *not* be defended.

While that may be the position of the News and its columnist, it hardly represents the genuine fears that are arising among national leaders and many American newspapers with slightly more credentials and a lot more common sense.

Unfortunately for the nation, the Clinton administration is dragging its feet — contending, among other things, that the U.S. would violate an anti-ballistic missile treaty signed with the Soviet Union if it deployed any defense system.

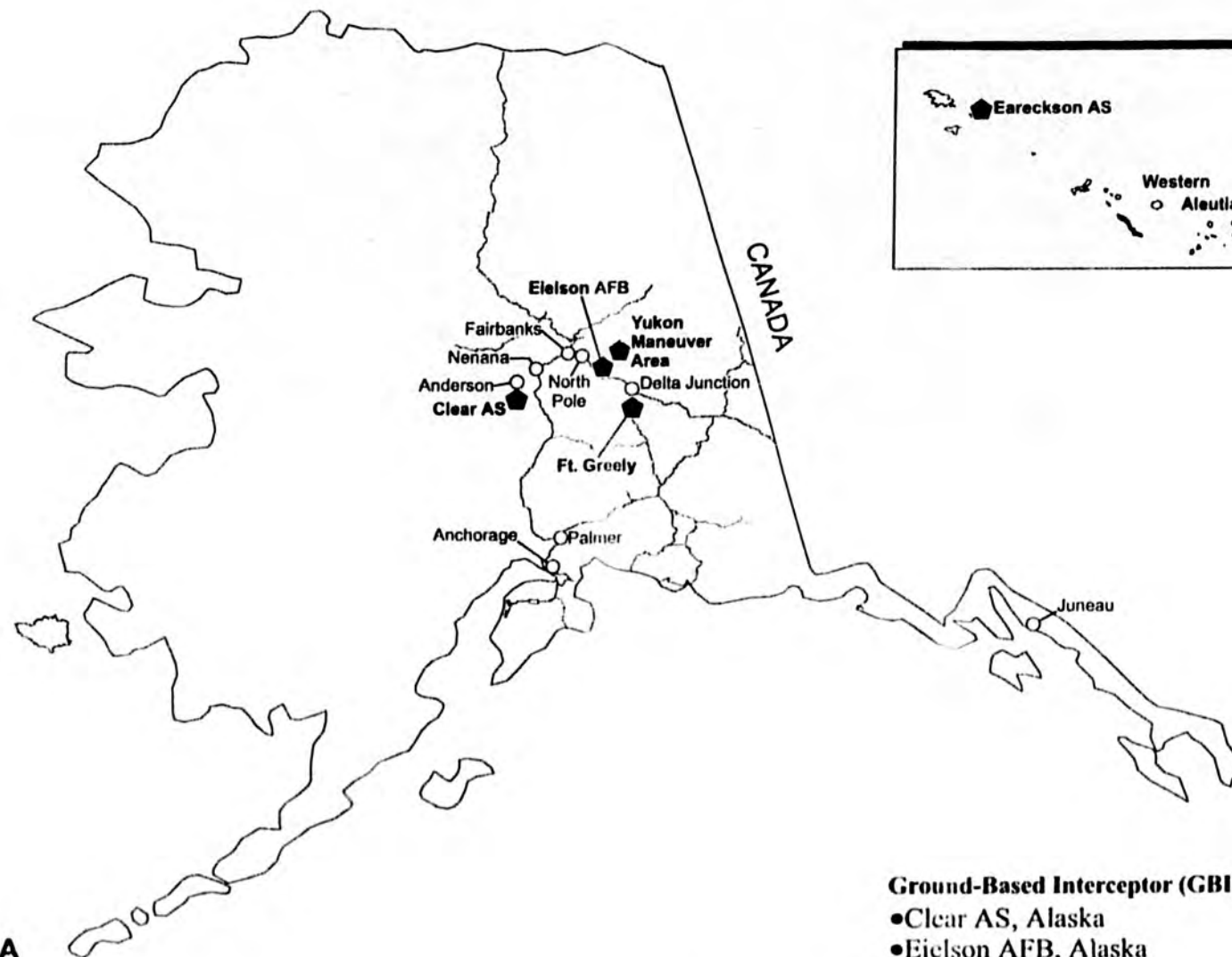
That proposition is absurd. In the first place, as the Boston Herald pointed out, "this treaty is dead." It was signed with a country that no longer exists. Second, it is not just the old Russian warheads that now threaten the U.S. We are under the gun, literally and figuratively, from missiles and warheads being developed by other countries, including Iraq, Iran and North Korea.

No less an authority than Defense Secretary William S. Cohen has warned of the peril from North Korea's new medium-range Nodong missile, which already is operational.

The Washington Times reported that North Korea also "is working to develop two longer-range missiles called Taepodong-1 and Taepodong-2. The Taepodong-2 is expected to have enough range to hit targets in Alaska and could be ready for use by 2002 — a year before the United States plans to have any national missile-defense system ready to counter it."

No big deal, maybe, to the News. But it's a huge concern to other Alaskans — and to thinking Americans everywhere.

Potential National Missile Defense Deployment Locations in Alaska



See Inset A

- City
- ◆ Potential NMD Deployment Location

Ground-Based Interceptor (GBI)

- Clear AS, Alaska
- Eielson AFB, Alaska
- Fort Greely, Alaska
- Yukon Maneuver Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska

X-Band Radar (XBR)

- Eareckson AS, Alaska

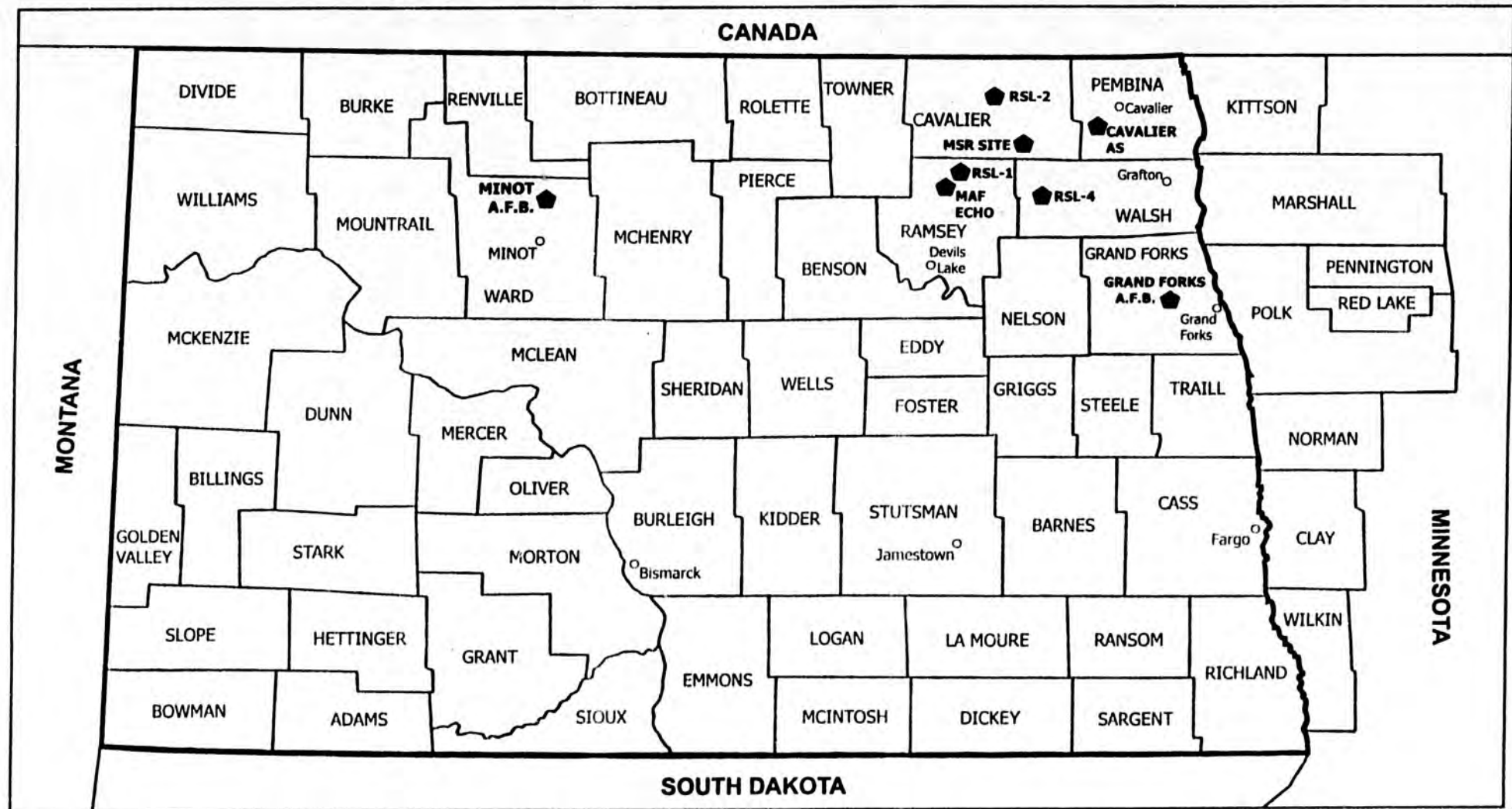
Battle Management, Command, and Control (BMC2)

- Clear AS, Alaska
- Eielson AFB, Alaska
- Fort Greely, Alaska
- Yukon Maneuver Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska

In-Flight Interceptor Communications System (IFICS)

- Clear AS, Alaska
- Eareckson AS, Alaska
- Eielson AFB, Alaska
- Fort Greely, Alaska
- Yukon Maneuver Area (Fort Wainwright), Alaska
- Western Aleutians, Alaska

Potential National Missile Defense Deployment Locations in North Dakota



- City
- Potential NMD Deployment Location

Ground-Based Interceptor (GBI)

- Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
- Missile Site Radar (MSR)

X-Band Radar (XBR)

- Cavalier AS, North Dakota
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
- Missile Site Radar (MSR)
- Remote Sprint Launch Site (RSL) 1
- Remote Sprint Launch Site (RSL) 2
- Remote Sprint Launch Site (RSL) 4

Battle Management, Command, and Control (BMC2)

- Cavalier AS, North Dakota
- Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
- Missile Site Radar (MSR)

In-Flight Interceptor Communications System (IFICS)

- Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota
- Minot AFB, North Dakota
- Missile Alert Facility (MAF) ECHO, North Dakota
- Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, North Dakota
- Missile Site Radar (MSR)

Alaska targeted for possible missile defense system

KTUU News
Story
June 25, 1998
By Jason Moore

The U.S. Military is considering Alaska as a possible site for an \$11 billion national missile defense system.

Officials in the Pentagon say the Last Frontier is the optimum location. They say within five years, a system protecting the entire United States could be based in the state.

The military's Ballistic Missile Defense Organization is developing the system in reaction to emerging threats from nations like North Korea and Pakistan. "We look at some of the different threats that are developing potentially that could threaten the United States," member Tom Johnson said. "The optimal site to provide most effective defense for the entire United States would actually be Alaska."

The possible sites being looked at include Elmendorf Air Force Base, Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Eilson Air Force Base near North Pole and Fort Greeley in Delta Junction.

But such a system in Alaska would violate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. The treaty names Grand Forks, North Dakota as the only site for such a system. Officials say a system based in North Dakota couldn't protect Alaska and Hawaii.

"If there's going to be a missile defense system, it should cover all the United States, Alaska and Hawaii," former Gov. Wally Hickel said. Hickel's organization Institute of the North is holding a forum next week in Anchorage to study the missile defense system. Military officials, along with Sen. Ted Stevens and Alaska National Guard Comdr. Gen. Jake Lestenkof, are expected to attend.

Defense politics

ALL THINGS considered, national defense should not be a matter of political partisanship.

Apparently it is, however, and Alaska is right in the middle of things.

At issue is the proposed deployment of a nuclear missile shield designed to protect the United States — except, that is, the states of Alaska and Hawaii. Thank you very much.

The plan to omit the 49th and 50th states is one backed by Democrats. Insisting that deployment of a fully effective missile shield — including Alaska and Hawaii — is becoming a major campaign commitment of the Republican Party.

The GOP, says Republican National Committee Chairman Jim Nicholson, "is prepared to have this become a political issue" as the mid-term congressional election season dawns.

Nicholson's comments are especially timely, coming as they do on the eve of a scheduled June 29-30 seminar here dealing with Alaska's assets and the state's role in the national missile defense debate.

The seminar, scheduled at the Hotel Captain Cook and sponsored by the Institute of the North, has some top experts on its program, and talk about the missile shield no doubt will be a part of the official and unofficial discussion topics.

ONE OF THE seminar speakers, Frank J. Gaffney Jr., was quoted in the Washington Times last Monday as saying that the U.S. already has a "vast preponderance of the infrastructure required for global anti-missile defenses."

Gaffney, director of the Center for Security Policy and former deputy assistant defense secretary in the Reagan administration, told the Times:

"We have a near-term practicable, eminently feasible and affordable way to put missile defense all over (the) world because we've bought and paid for the entire necessary infrastructure and already deployed it."

The reference apparently was to the Aegis system of radar-guided missile defense armament aboard Navy cruisers and destroyers.

That indeed may be a "near-term" defense system, the start of a bigger shield capable of intercepting the growing missile threat coming from such countries as North Korea and China.

No matter the hardware involved, however, the basic premise of any national defense policy — as propounded by any national political leader, regardless of party — should be that all Americans will be under a shield of protection against our enemies.

And that includes Alaskans and Hawaiians, even though President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore may not think so.

Clinton's Toothless Nonproliferation Policy

By JESSE HELMS

President Clinton, facing the collapse of his nonproliferation policy and the emergence of India and Pakistan as declared nuclear powers, is touting a toothless arms-control pact as a panacea. After 10 nuclear tests by India and Pakistan, Mr. Clinton is pushing these countries to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and is demanding quick Senate ratification of the accord.

Getting India and Pakistan to sign the CTBT now would amount to nothing more than closing the stable door after the horses have galloped away. What earthly good is a "test ban" if nations only join the treaty after carrying out all their planned tests? Besides, the CTBT is a dead-letter for the foreseeable future. The treaty itself states that it cannot take effect until 14 specific nations (including not only India and Pakistan, but North Korea and Iran) ratify the pact. That's not going to happen any time soon.

ABM Protocols

The administration needs to face some facts: The nuclear club is expanding; China and Russia are recklessly proliferating dangerous technology to rogue regimes; and some two dozen nations, many of them hostile to the U.S., are working to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and the missile technology to deliver them. The threat of ballistic missile attack on the U.S. is growing rapidly—and, incredible as it may seem, the U.S. cannot stop a ballistic missile headed for an American city.

What is needed now is not another meaningless arms control treaty like the CTBT. What is needed is a credible nonproliferation policy and a national missile defense to protect the U.S. against the growing threat of nuclear, chemical and

biological weapons attack. For more than 25 years, the impediment to building such a defense has been the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, in which the Soviet Union and the U.S. agreed not to defend themselves from missile attack.

Today, with the collapse of our treaty partner, the ABM Treaty is defunct. But instead of moving ahead with a national missile defense to protect the American

people, Mr. Clinton wants to revive the ABM Treaty and its restrictions on missile defense. He has negotiated protocols that would not only revive the treaty, but also expand it to include new countries that did not even exist when the original ABM Treaty was ratified. These protocols would make missile defense for the U.S. impossible.

Waving around the worthless test-ban treaty is no substitute for a competent nonproliferation policy. It is certainly no substitute for national missile defense.

people, Mr. Clinton wants to revive the ABM Treaty and its restrictions on missile defense. He has negotiated protocols that would not only revive the treaty, but also expand it to include new countries that did not even exist when the original ABM Treaty was ratified. These protocols would make missile defense for the U.S. impossible.

The Senate is poised to vote this year on Mr. Clinton's ABM Protocols—but he is refusing to allow the vote to take place. Even as Mr. Clinton is pushing for quick Senate action on the discredited CTBT, he is holding the ABM Protocols hostage, refusing to submit them for the Senate's advice and consent.

The vote on the ABM Protocols would be the first time in the 26 years since the ABM Treaty was ratified that the Senate has had a chance to re-examine the wisdom of that dangerous pact. The administration is desperate to prevent such a reconsideration. The president fears that given the strong support in Congress for national missile defense, the Senate may actually reject the ABM Protocols—and that such a

defeat would be a devastating rejection of the ABM Treaty itself.

Mr. Clinton's fears may well be justified: I will be leading the charge to defeat the ABM Protocols and to clear the way for national missile defense. But the president cannot pick which treaties the Senate will consider and which ones it will not. Submitting the ABM Protocols to the Senate is not a matter of discretion for Mr. Clinton—

it is a matter of law. And Mr. Clinton should not expect swift action on a treaty he wants the Senate to vote on while at the same time holding hostage other treaties on which he does not want a Senate vote.

In addition to his constitutional obligations, on May 15, 1997, he entered into an agreement with the Senate which requires, in explicit, legally binding language, that he submit the ABM Protocols to the Senate. This is a condition I required during the ratification of the Conventional Forces in Europe flank document. After more than a year and numerous requests from the Senate, the president has still failed to release the ABM Protocols.

We cannot afford to wait any longer. The world has changed a great deal since the ABM Treaty was ratified in the midst of the Cold War. The danger posed by rogue states possessing weapons of mass destruction is growing, and with it the need for a robust ballistic missile defense. The time has come for the Senate to conduct a thorough review of this antiquated treaty and decide whether the U.S. should be bound by it in a world

of rapidly proliferating threats.

I intend to begin Foreign Relations Committee consideration of the ABM Protocols shortly and to have a full Senate vote on them before Congress adjourns this year. Only the continued intransigence of the Clinton administration could prevent such a vote.

Such intransigence would have consequences for the administration. If the White House expects cooperation from the Senate on its priorities, then I expect to have its full cooperation with the committee's consideration of the ABM Protocols. It is unacceptable for the administration to hold these agreements (as well as other accords, such as the Kyoto Protocol on Global Climate Change) hostage simply because it believes they might be rejected by the Senate.

Instead of pushing a new treaty that papers over India's and Pakistan's nuclear tests, the administration must require them to roll back their nuclear programs and sign the existing nuclear ban—the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty—which already has 185 signatories and has been in force since 1970.

Vote This Year

Waving around the worthless CTBT is no substitute for a competent nonproliferation policy. It is no substitute for punishing China's proliferation activities. And it is certainly no substitute for national missile defense.

Let the president make his case for reviving the ABM Treaty. We who support deployment of national missile defense will make ours. But the Senate must vote on the ABM Protocols and the fate of the ABM Treaty this year.

Mr. Helms (R., N.C.) is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

ce of The Times

Don't amend ABM treaty; declare it dead

By SEN. JESSE HELMS

Under pressure from the Pentagon and congressional conservatives, President Clinton reluctantly decided to request \$6.6 billion over six years in his new budget for missile-defense research. And Defense Secretary William Cohen announced Jan. 21 that the administration wants permission from Russia to renegotiate the Antiballistic Missile Treaty.

But administration officials have made it clear that unless the Russians are willing to give that permission, they have no intention of actually deploying a nationwide missile defense system. Why? Because the administration believes that any such deployment would violate the ABM treaty. And, as National Security Adviser Samuel Berger affirmed in a speech just last week, "We remain strongly committed to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty [as] a cornerstone of our security."

What that means is that in Mr. Berger's view, deploying even the most limited missile defense would require getting permission from Russia to revise the ABM treaty.

Consider that for a moment: The Clinton administration wants to negotiate permission from Russia over whether the U.S. can protect itself from ballistic missile attack by North Korea.

The ABM treaty is the root of our problems. So long as it is a "cornerstone" of U.S. security policy, as Mr. Berger says, we will never be able to deploy a nationwide missile defense that will provide real security for the American people.

We do not need to renegotiate the ABM treaty to build and deploy national missile defense. We can do it today. The ABM treaty is dead. It died when our treaty partner, the Soviet Union, ceased to exist. But rather than move swiftly to declare the treaty dead, and to build and deploy a national missile defense, the Clinton administration is attempting to resuscitate the ABM treaty with new protocols to apply its terms to Russia and all the other nuclear states that were once part of the Soviet Union.

The world has changed a great deal since the ABM treaty was first ratified 27 years ago. The U.S. faces new and very different threats today — threats which are growing daily. China has 19 intercontinental ballistic missiles, 13 of which are aimed at the U.S. As recently as 1997 a



senior Chinese official issued a veiled nuclear threat, warning that the U.S. would never come to the defense of Taiwan, because we Americans "care more about Los Angeles than we do Taipei."

Saddam Hussein is doggedly pursuing nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and the long-range missiles to deliver them, and the will of the international community to confront and disarm him is crumbling. Iran, which is also developing a nuclear capability, just tested a new missile — built with Russian, Chinese and North Korean technology — which can strike Israel and Turkey, a NATO ally. And, according to the Rumsfeld Commission, Iran "has acquired and is seeking advanced missile components that can be combined to produce ballistic missiles with sufficient range to strike the United States." If Iran succeeds, the commission warns, it will be capable of striking all the way to St. Paul, Minn.

North Korea's unstable communist regime is forging ahead with its nuclear weapons program, and test-fired a missile over Japan last August which is capable of striking both Alaska and Hawaii. And Pyongyang is close to testing a new missile, the TD-2, which could allow it to strike the continental U.S. America is today vulnerable to ballistic missile attack by unstable outlaw regimes, and that missile threat will increase dramatically in the early years of the 21st century. What are we doing today, in this waning year of the 20th cen-

tury, to defend ourselves against these emerging threats? Practically nothing.

When the Senate votes on the new protocols expanding the ABM treaty to Russia and other post-Soviet states, we will in fact be voting on the ABM treaty itself. For the first time in 27 years, the Senate will have a chance to re-examine the wisdom of that dangerous treaty. If I succeed, we will defeat the ABM treaty, toss it into the dustbin of history and thereby clear the way to build a national missile defense.

The Clinton administration wants to avoid that at all costs. So the president has delayed sending the new protocols to the Senate for approval. But Mr. Clinton does not have a choice — he is required by law to submit the ABM protocols to the Senate. On May 14, 1997, Mr. Clinton agreed to explicit, legally binding language that he submit the protocols, a condition that I required during the ratification of another treaty, the Conventional Forces in Europe Flank Document. It has been 618 days since Mr. Clinton made that commitment under law. I am going to hold him to it.

I am setting a deadline for the president to submit the ABM protocols to the Senate. I expect them to arrive by June 1. In the meantime, I will begin ratification hearings on the treaty shortly, so that the Foreign Relations Committee will be ready to vote and report the treaty to the full Senate by June 1. I say to the president: Let your administration make its case for the ABM treaty, we will make our case against it, and let the Senate vote. If I have my way, the Senate this year will clear the way for the deployment of national missile defense.

Not until the administration has submitted the ABM protocols and the Kyoto global-warming treaty, and the Senate has completed its consideration of them, will the Foreign Relations Committee turn its attention to other treaties on the president's agenda.

Mr. Clinton cannot demand quick action on treaties he wants us to consider, and at the same time hold hostage other treaties he is afraid we will reject. The president must submit all of them, or we will consider none of them.

Sen. Jessie Helms, R-N.C., is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. This column is reprinted with permission of the Wall Street Journal, which published it Jan. 22. Reprinted with permission of the Wall Street Journal © 1999 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All rights reserved.

Alaska State Legislature **HOUSE MAJORITY NEWS**

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Press Secretary
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 8, 1999

CONTACT: Rep. Lisa Murkowski
(907) 465-3783

House Approves Joint Armed Services Committee **Permanent Committee To Monitor Alaska-related Military Topics**

(JUNEAU) -- The Alaska House of Representatives Monday, unanimous vote, approved House Bill 77, sponsored by Representative Lisa Murkowski (R-Anchorage). HB 77 would establish the Joint Armed Services Committee as a permanent interim committee of the Alaska Legislature.

"Alaska is being considered as a site for the deployment of a National Ballistic Missile Defense System. In addition, the Clinton Administration is planning another round of Base Realignments and Closures," said Murkowski. "This committee would present a unified front by House, Senate, military, and civilian members to monitor, in a timely manner, these and other military topics that affect Alaskans."

The Joint Armed Services Committee would consist of five senators and five representatives, as well as five non-legislators jointly appointed by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House. The five non-legislators would include: one member recommended by the Alaska chapters of the Associations of the Army, Air Force and Marines and the Navy League; one member recommended by the 17th Coast Guard District Auxiliary; one member recommended by the Mayor of Anchorage; one member recommended by the Mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough; and one member recommended by the Adjutant General of Alaska.

"On the one hand there is the potential of new missile sites, but on the other hand there is the offsetting threat of possible base closures or consolidations," Murkowski said. "The military has an annual impact on the Alaska economy of approximately \$1.7 billion. The Joint Armed Services Committee will give us the platform from which to take a leading role in monitoring military-related events."

A Notice of Reconsideration was filed, so the bill may be considered again before moving on to the Senate.

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Broadcasters note: Comments are available on the House Majority Actuality Line 1-800-478-6540



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CONCUR MESSAGE

March 23, 1999

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER:

The Senate passed CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 77(FIN) with the following amendment:

Page 3, line 17:
Delete "and"

Page 3, line 21, following "Affairs":
Insert "; and"

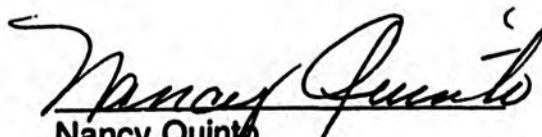
(8) a state resident, other than a member of the state legislature, who is appointed jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives after considering the joint recommendations of the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Alaska Municipal League."

and so,

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 77(FIN) am S

"An Act relating to the Joint Armed Services Committee, a permanent interim committee of the Alaska State Legislature; and providing for an effective date."

is returned for consideration.


Nancy Quinto
Secretary of the Senate

36-2