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HAVE ADVERSARY MISSILES BECOME A REVOLUTION IN MILITARY AFFAIRS?

My compliments to Mr. William F. Bell on his excellent article “Have Adversary Missiles Become a Revolution in Military Affairs?” (September–October 2014). He has certainly captured most of the challenges faced by our integrated air and missile defense (IAMD) forces as ballistic and cruise missiles proliferate across boundaries, grow in numbers, and rapidly improve in capability. The concept of a single-theater missile fight is essentially obsolete—the increasing range of ballistic and even cruise missiles easily crosses artificial borders between combatant commands (COCOM), giving nearly any fight the potential to cause multitheater problems, including homeland defense, essentially turning “away games” into undesirable “home games.”

Mr. Bell hit the nail on the head by naming affordability the first requirement of any IAMD system of systems. We can simply no longer afford to rely on what Adm James Winnefeld, vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, terms “Golden BBs”—the highly complex, very expensive sensor and interceptor systems used to knock down simple, inexpensive missiles and rockets fielded by adversaries. In fact, most of Mr. Bell’s points fall right in line with those made by Gen Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), in his December 2013 *Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense: Vision 2020*. In that document, the chairman names six imperatives required for success in the future of IAMD: (1) “Incorporate, fuse, exploit, and leverage every bit of information available regardless of source or classification, and distribute it as needed to U.S. Forces and selected partners”; (2) “Make interdependent Joint and Combined force employment the baseline”;

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(3) “Target development, modernization, fielding, and science and technology efforts to meet specific gaps in IAMD capabilities, all the while stressing affordability and interoperability”; (4) “Focus Passive Defense efforts on addressing potential capability and capacity shortfalls in air and missile defense”; (5) “Establish and pursue policies to leverage partner contributions”; and (6) “Create an awareness of the IAMD mission and the benefits of its proper utilization across the Department of Defense.” (Joint Chiefs of Staff, *Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense: Vision 2020* [Washington, DC: Joint Chiefs of Staff, 5 December 2013], 4–5, <http://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Publications/JointIAMDVision2020.pdf>.)

The one—in fact, the only—area where I must take issue with Mr. Bell is his conclusion, wherein he states that “perhaps the [Missile Defense Agency’s (MDA)] responsibilities should be expanded to avoid creating unnecessary gaps in our defenses” (p. 63). MDA is an organization purpose-built as a materiel developer, neither intended nor equipped for involvement in strategy, doctrine, operations, or the like. I have a great relationship with MDA leadership and tremendous respect for everything the agency has accomplished so well, but the task Mr. Bell describes simply isn’t its job.

I contend that the action agency for this purpose already exists—the Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization (JIAMDO) on the Joint Staff J-8. We at JIAMDO are at the forefront of cross-service integration and multi-COCOM coordination for all facets of IAMD, including ballistic missile defense; cruise missile defense; counter-unmanned aerial systems; and even counter-rockets, artillery, and mortars. Not only are we the prime implementing agency for instantiating the CJCS *Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense: Vision 2020*, we have recently rewritten the IAMD Roadmap for 2020–2030 and expect the CJCS’s signature on it in the near future. JIAMDO works closely with the COCOMs as they develop their integrated priority lists, using them to inform the chairman’s Capability Gap Analysis for IAMD and monitoring service IAMD budgets for execution. We are also closely aligned with service and MDA research, development, and acquisition arms, and work to ensure compliance with interoperability requirements of the IAMD operational architecture that we developed. Moreover, we advocate IAMD issues with Congress, the State Department, and the National Security



Staff. And we do it all dispassionately as unbiased, honest brokers and representatives of the CJCS, with a joint pedigree and direct access to senior leadership throughout the department.

However, JIAMDO isn't just about requirements, budgets, and acquisition. We run the world's only live-fly, live-fire counter-unmanned aerial systems technology demonstration and exercise annually at Black Dart. Additionally, we put on an operator-in-the-loop, future-epoch simulation for COCOM-based, campaign-level IAMD war games, the results of which inform the highest departmental leadership. JIAMDO is lead agent for rewriting Joint Publication 3-01, *Countering Air and Missile Threats*, 23 March 2012, and we are leading the charge to integrate cyber into IAMD and vice versa. Clearly, JIAMDO is deeply involved in every facet of IAMD, from doctrine to requirements to budgets to exercises to operations, and we do it on a worldwide basis through our experienced network of COCOM liaison officers and subject-matter experts. Anyone can contribute—join our JIAMDO Group on LinkedIn, and start contributing to the unclassified discussion.

Yes, Mr. Bell is quite right. We need a single organization that can coordinate across boundaries to make things happen in integrated air and missile defense, kinetic and nonkinetic, left and right of launch. There has never been a greater need for exactly that kind of central linchpin to the IAMD community, and the demand and workload are steadily increasing while the budgets dwindle.

But look no further—we are already here: JIAMDO.

JESSE A. WILSON JR.

Rear Admiral, USN

*Director for Joint Integrated Air and
Missile Defense Organization, J-8*

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