US BMD PROGRAM UNDER BUSH ADMINISTRATION: ITS INFLUENCE ON ARMS RACE AND PROLIFERATION IN EAST ASIA

Recommended Citation

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Under President Bush, the US Department of Defense, declared that its decision to deploy BMD was a matter of national security. It had been made in response to the new threat posed by North Korea, which was developing a nuclear weapon. The Bush administration also believed that it was necessary to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and to ensure the security of the US and its allies.

The Bush administration had decided to deploy a system known as the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) in South Korea and the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) in Japan. The THAAD system is designed to intercept short to medium-range missiles in their final, or terminal, phase of flight.

The deployment of THAAD in South Korea and Japan has been controversial. The South Korean and Japanese governments have argued that the deployment of THAAD is necessary to protect their countries from North Korea's nuclear and missile threat. However, some countries, including China and Russia, have expressed concerns about the deployment of THAAD and have argued that it could contribute to an arms race in the region.

Some scholars argue that the deployment of THAAD is a response to China's increasing assertiveness in the region. Others argue that it is a response to North Korea's nuclear and missile program. Still others argue that it is a response to the US's own nuclear posture.

In conclusion, the deployment of THAAD is a complex issue that involves a range of factors, including national security, arms control, and regional stability.