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### UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: Public Disclosure of New Laser Weapon

From: Henny van der Pluijm <hvdp@worldonline.nl>  
Date: Thu, 4 Sep 1997 04:29:12 +0200 (MET DST)  
Fwd Date: Thu, 04 Sep 1997 08:24:09 -0400  
Subject: Re: Public Disclosure of New Laser Weapon

>Date: Wed, 3 Sep 1997 09:40:13 +0100 (BST)  
>From: Mike Smith <mickey@anix340.dev.anix.co.uk>  
>To: updates@globalserve.net  
>Subject: Public Disclosure of New Laser Weapon

>Hi All,

>It's just been on the news here, in between the Diana coverage, that the  
>American Airforce are asking permission to test fire their new toy. They  
>apparently wish to target a redundant airforce satellite and shoot it out  
>of the sky.

It's the High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility (HELSTF) on White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico. The weapon is the Mid Infrared Advanced Chemical Laser (MIRACL). It's not owned by the US Air Force, but by the US Army. The USAF is engaged in developing airborne laser weapons.

It's meant as a defense against incoming missiles and enemy satellites. Similar laser weapons have already been successfully tested. One of them knocked out a missile.

Full story in Popular Science, September issue.

>Three thoughts arise from this, well four actually:

> 1. When did they ever ask for permission to do anything like this before.

They didn't need too. President Ronald Reagan approved the Strategic Defense Initiative, the official name for the Star Wars program (not the movie) in the 1980s.

After opposition to this project the name was changed in 1993 under pres. Bill Clinton into Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO). Star Wars was gone, but not really.

> 2. Normally by the time a weapon goes public it's been operational for some time.

Projects like these have been in the press before. The BMDO is not really a secret.

> 3. Corso's book talks about such directed energy weapons being used

> against ET's. Does this lend any credence to the rest of the book.

Perhaps. The official requirement for such weapons came from the threat of a nuclear exchange with the Soviets. This was a legitimate concern IMO and would be reason enough for development.

The ongoing development is justified by the inclusion of intercontinental ballistic missiles in the arsenals of rogue states such as North Korea and Iran. Also justified. There may be a potential alien threat as well, at least as perceived through the eyes of some US generals and intel agencies. It could at least provide them with a better negotiating position.

> 4. Could this device be used to target spacecraft and if so what kind  
> of damage/disruption would it cause.

The test is directed at a satellite. It would be obliterated.

>Starwars has most definitely arrived.

Indeed.

>You can now imagine our rednecked little planet strolling up to various  
>ET spacecraft and uttering those immortal words.

> "You ain't from around here, are you boy"

I'm sure it would make some aliens behave. As US President Theodore Roosevelt said: 'Speak softly and carry a big stick'. In this case a big laser.

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Met vriendelijke groet/Best wishes
  Henny van der Pluijm
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  Leiden, The Netherlands
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