

Space Policy Issues

- Space Warfare Definitions -

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Space Defense Definitions (1)

- **Space Sovereignty** - A nation's inherent right to exercise absolute control and authority over the orbital space near its satellites. Also see **Space Sovereignty Mission**.
- **Space Sovereignty Mission** - The integrated tasks of surveillance and control, the execution of which enforces a nation's authority over the orbital space near its satellites.
- **Space Control Operations** - The employment of space forces, supported by air, ground and naval forces, as appropriate, to achieve military objectives in vital areas of concern to space systems. Such operations include destruction of enemy in-space assets, space-related ground systems and surface-to-space forces (launch), interdiction of enemy space operations, protection of vital space lines of communication (links from ground to space to ground), and the establishment of local military superiority in areas of space operations.

Definitions Derived from Joint Pub 3-01.1 Modified for Space Control

Space Defense Definitions (2)

- **Space Autonomous Operation** - In space defense, the mode of operation assumed by a space system after it has lost all communications with human controllers. The space system assumes full responsibility for control of weapons and engagement of hostile targets, based in accordance with on-board surveillance and weapon system control logic. This automatic state may occur on a regular basis due to orbital movements outside regions of ground coverage and control.
- **Space Positive Control** - A method of space control which relies on positive identification, tracking, and situation assessment of spacecraft within a Space Defense Area, conducted with electronic means by an agency having the authority and responsibility therein.
- **Space Weapons Free** - In space defense, a weapon control order imposing a status whereby weapons systems may be fired at any target in orbital space of defined altitude and inclination, not positively recognized as friendly.
- **Space Weapons Hold** - In space defense, a weapon control order imposing a status whereby weapons systems may only be fired in self defense or in response to a formal order.
- **Space Weapons Tight** - In space defense, a weapon control order imposing a status whereby weapons systems may be fired only at targets recognized as hostile.

Definitions Derived from Joint Pub 3-01.1 Modified for Space Control

Space Defense Definitions (3)

- **Active Space Defense** - Direct defensive action taken to destroy, nullify, or reduce the effectiveness of hostile space actions. It includes the use of anti-satellite weapon systems, defensive counter space weapons, electronic warfare, and other available weapons not primarily used in a space defense role. See also Space Defense.
- **Passive Space Defense** - All measures, other than Active Space Defense, taken to reduce the probability of and to minimize the effects of damage to space systems caused by hostile action without the intention of taking the initiative. These measures include camouflage, deception, dispersion, and the use of protective construction and design. See also Space Defense.
- **Space Centralized Control** - In space defense, the control mode whereby a higher echelon makes direct target assignments to fire units.
- **Space Decentralized Control** - In space defense, the normal mode whereby a higher echelon monitors unit actions, making direct target assignments to units only when necessary to ensure proper fire distribution or to prevent engagement of friendly spacecraft. See also Centralized Control.
- **Broadcast-Controlled Space Interception** - An interception in which the interceptor is given a continuous broadcast of information concerning the space defense situation and effects interception without further control.
- **Close-Controlled Space Interception** - An interception in which the interceptor is continuously controlled to a position from which the target is within local sensor range.

Definitions Derived from Joint Pub 3-01.1 Modified for Space Control

Space Defense Definitions (4)

- **Suppression of Adversary Counterspace Capabilities** - Suppression that neutralizes or negates an adversary offensive counterspace system through deception, denial, disruption, degradation, and/or destruction. These operations can target ground, air, missile, or space threats in response to an attack or threat of attack. (AFDD 2-2.1)
- **Space Control Sector** - A sub element of the space control area, established to facilitate the control of the overall orbit. Space control sector boundaries normally coincide with space defense organization subdivision boundaries. Space control sectors are designated in accordance with procedures and guidance contained in the space control plan in consideration of Service component and allied space control capabilities and requirements.
- **Space Deconfliction In The Combat Zone** - A process used to increase combat effectiveness by promoting the safe, efficient, and flexible use of space systems. Space Deconfliction is provided in order to prevent fratricide, enhance space defense operations, and permit greater flexibility of operations. Space Deconfliction does not infringe on the authority vested in commanders to approve, disapprove, or deny combat operations. Also called combat space deconfliction; space deconfliction.
- **Space Point Defense** - The defense or protection of special vital elements, orbital positions (geosynchronous slots, and advantageous orbits, such as sun-synchronous) and installations; e.g., command and control facilities, space launch facilities, Tracking, Telemetry and Control facilities, space surveillance sensors, and high-value satellites.

Definitions Derived from Joint Pub 3-01.1 Modified for Space Control

Space Defense Definitions (5)

- **Space Defense Operations Area** - An area and the orbital space around it within which procedures are established to minimize mutual interference between space defense and other operations; it may include designation of one or more of the following: Space Defense Action Area, Space Defense Area; Space Defense Identification Zone, and, or firepower umbrella.
- **Space Defense Action Area** - An orbit and the space around it within which friendly spacecraft or surface-to-space weapons are normally given precedence in operations except under specified conditions.
- **Space Defense Area** - 1.) A specifically defined orbit for which space defense must be planned and provided. 2.) An orbit and a region surrounding it of defined dimensions designated by the appropriate agency within which the ready control of spaceborne vehicles is required in the interest of national security during an space defense emergency.
- **Space Defense Region** - An orbital subdivision of a Space Defense Area.
- **Space Defense Sector** - An orbital subdivision of a Space Defense Region.
- **Space Defense Division** - A geographic subdivision of a Space Defense Region.
- **Space Defense Identification Zone (SDIZ)** - Orbital space of defined parameters within which the ready identification, location, and control of spaceborne vehicles is required.
- **Space Defense Battle Zone** - A volume of space surrounding a space defense fire unit or defended area, extending to a specified orbital altitude and inclination, in which the fire unit commander will engage and destroy targets not identified as friendly under criteria established by higher headquarters. In other words, this would be a free-fire zone around a defended satellite.

Definitions Derived from Joint Pub 3-01.1 Modified for Space Control

Space Defense Definitions (6)

- **Space Weapon Engagement Zone (SWEZ)** - In space defense, orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which the responsibility for engagement of space threats normally rests with a particular weapon system.
- **Direct-Ascent Engagement Zone (DAEZ)** - In space defense, that orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which the responsibility for engagement of space threats normally rests with a direct-ascent anti-satellite system of terrestrial launch origin.
- **Directed Energy Engagement Zone (DEEZ)** - In space defense, that orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which the responsibility for engagement of space threats normally rests with a directed energy (laser or microwave) ASAT or electronic warfare system of terrestrial location.
- **Electronic Warfare Engagement Zone (EWEZ)** - In space defense, that orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which the responsibility for engagement of space threats normally rests with an electronic warfare system of terrestrial location.
- **Close Attack Engagement Zone (CAEZ)** - In space defense, that orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which the responsibility for engagement of space threats normally rests with an ASAT system that is stationed within 10 kilometers of its target.
- **Long Range Engagement Zone (LREZ)** - In space defense, that orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which the responsibility for engagement of space threats normally rests with long range space defense weapons, that are space-based, but are normally stationed at more than 10 kilometers from its target.
- **Joint Engagement Zone (JEZ)** - In space defense, that orbital space of defined altitude and inclination within which multiple space defense systems (from both terrestrial and space-based locations) are simultaneously employed to engage space targets.

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