Cooperation Measures in Legal and Strategic Aspect between Ministries of Defence of Thailand and China to Enhance Space Security in Asian Region and International Level

Amending of International Laws to Ban Space Weapons

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<u>Outline</u>

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Where does outer space begin?
- 3. What is the meanings of "peaceful purposes" or "peaceful uses"?
- 4. What are the manners of uses of weapons in outer space? Which manners should be banned?
- 5. Implementation









First Satellite







1958: Bold Orion



March 23, 1983, the USA President, Ronald Reagan, proposed the creation of the **Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)**,







Weapons capable to be used in outer space are being developed worldwide



Where does outer space begin?

International space laws give no definition!

- Aerodynamic-lift theory
- Atmospheric space theory
- Usque ad infinitum theory
- Lowest perigee theory









Solution

- Adopting the Lowest Perigee Theory
- Setting the boundary between airspace and outer space at the altitude of 80 kilometer
- Reducing the sovereign airspace areas of states

What is the meaning of "peaceful purposes" or "peaceful uses"?

Non-aggressive???

or

Non-military???



Charter of the United Nations, Article 2

All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force ...

- (1) against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, (บุกรุก หรือ แทรกแซงการเมืองภายใน)
- (2) or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations."

Charter of the United Nations, Article 1

The Purposes of the United Nations are:

- 1. To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace...
- 2. To develop friendly relations among nations

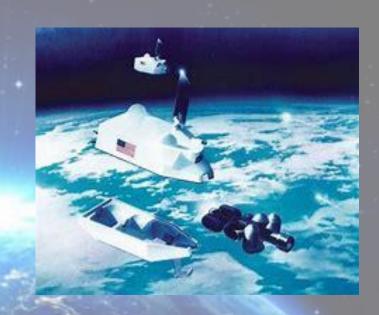
What are the manners of uses of weapons in outer space? Which manners should be banned?

- (1) Placing in Orbit around the Earth, the Moon, or Celestial Bodies, Stationing or Installing Weapons in Outer Space
- (2) Transiting of Weapons from One Spot of the Earth through Outer Space Either to another Spot, or the Same Spot, of the Earth
- (3) Employing of Weapons from the Earth's Surface into Outer Space
- (4) Use of Any Environmental or Geophysical Modification Activity as a Weapon of War
- (5) Use of cyber means of warfare to damage, destroy, or harm space systems

1. Placing in Orbit around the Earth, the Moon, or Celestial Bodies, Stationing or Installing Weapons in Outer Space (space-based weapons)



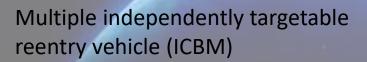
Space-based X-ray laser

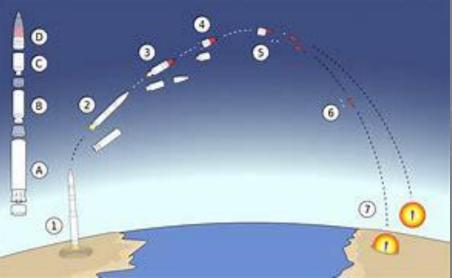


Brilliant pebbles

2. Transiting of Weapons from One Spot of the Earth through Outer Space Either to another Spot, or the Same Spot, of the Earth (Sub-orbital flight)







Multiple independently targetable reentry vehicle (MIRV)

3. Employing of Weapons from the Earth's Surface into Outer Space



Anti-satellite weapons (ASAT)



Electromagnetic pulse (EMP)

4. Use of Any Environmental or Geophysical Modification Activity as a Weapon of War



Space junk

5. Use of cyber means of warfare to damage, destroy, or harm space systems



Event though those mentioned manners have not been completely and obviously banned by the current legal regime, but they likely violate the principle of "peaceful uses of outer space"

Hence, space weapons should mean any weapons exclusively designed to use or install so. These weapons should be banned.

This idea will fill the gaps of the PPWT opposed by the United States.



Based on 20 Years National Defense Strategy B.E. 2560-2579 (Thailand), and the 2015 Military Strategy (China), bilateral and regional talks in Asian region should be carried out, and take those suggestions as bilateral agreements, memorandum of understanding (MoU), or regional agreements.

- ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM+)
- ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)
- Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD)
- Jakarta International Defence Dialogue (JIDD)
- Xiangshan Forum

If we can reach to an agreement in bilateral or regional level, the researcher believe that those suggestions could be extended to be recognized in international level someday. That will bring about peace to mankind.

Thank you for your attention!