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WARN WARNING: TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, LEADER, MILITARY

SERI SERIAL: EUP2##1#615###242

COUN COUNTRY: GERMANY, UNITED STATES

SUBJ*SUBJ: German Daily Suspects US of Arming Against 'UFO Attacks by Extraterrestrials'

SOUR SOURCE: Hamburg Bild in German 15 Jun #1 pp 1,2

TEXT TEXT:

[Report by Martin S. Lambeck: "Is NATO Afraid of UFOS?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] What does the United States really plan with its new antimissile shield in space? In an interview with ZDF television, NATO Secretary General Robertson now seems to have revealed more than the United States and its allies actually wanted to admit. Mysteriously, he spoke of "new dangers" against which the defense system is aimed -- "be it terrorism or a threat from space." What do the politicians know that we do not know? Els the United States arming itself against potential UFO attacks by sextraterrestrials? *extraterrestrials?

Is there really a threat from space?

In fact, not only NATO Secretary General George Robertson implied potential attacks from space, but also US President George Bush warned the NATO partners in Brussels of "new threats." However, he did not say what kind of threats -- whether a meteorite *storm or even UFO attacks.

Speaking with Bild, Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping (Social Democratic Party of Germany) clearly commented on the insimuations by NATO Secretary General Robertson about a "threat from space," which could be understood all too easily as panic-mongering against *extraterrestrial attacks.

Scharping: "There is worldwide agreement that the proliferation of mass destruction weapons creates new threats. This requires a common and political response -- with clear realism."

The Defense Ministry says warningly: "We do not think anything of horror scenarios.

Officially, the space shield is supposed to shoot down incoming

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missiles from "rogue states" (Libya, Iran) with laser or antimissile missiles.

Now, however, there is the question: does the United States intend to use its antimissile missiles also against meteorites that threaten Earth? The Max Planck Institute for Astronomy (Heidelberg) warms: a total of 200,000 metric tones of mini-meteorites crash into earth every year.

The Issue also caused disturbances at the summit of the EU heads of government with Bush in Goteborg. A total of 500 demonstrators protested against the US missile plans and against Bush's refusal to ratify the Kyoto climate protection protocol. [Description of Source: Hamburg Bild in German -- popular tabloid daily leaning right of center]

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