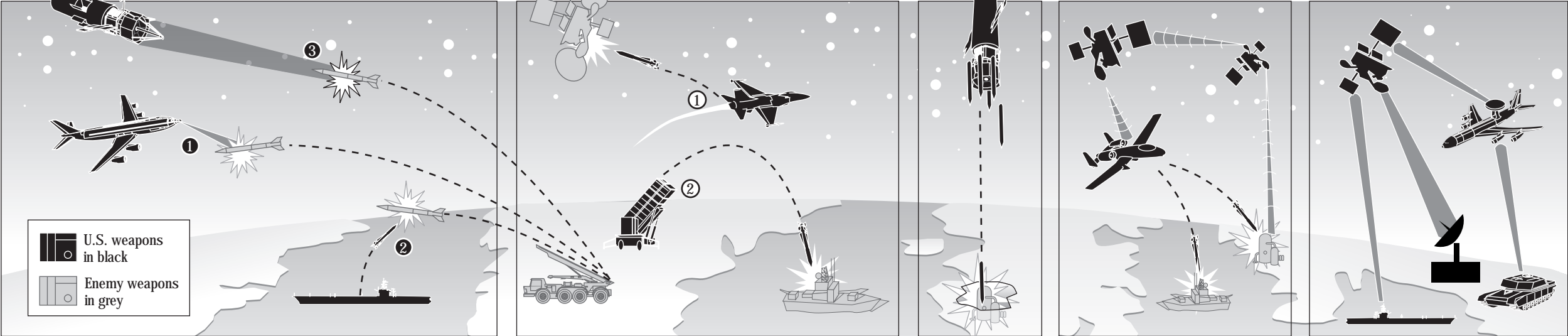


Weapons in space

Three general types of space weapons are being developed or envisioned by Pentagon planners: those that would defend against ballistic missiles; those that would attack or defend

satellites, and those that would attack targets on Earth. Existing satellites that provide communications or munitions guidance would be upgraded. The aim would be to provide closely

coordinated military operations linking forces and equipment on the ground, in the air and up in space.



1. Airborne laser shoots a beam at a missile heading toward U.S. soon after launch.
2. U.S. ship between U.S. and enemy land shoots a missile to intercept enemy missile.
3. Space based laser hits enemy missile.

1. Anti-satellite weapons launched from high-flying plane that could destroy enemy satellite.
2. Weapons platform shoots missiles at enemy ship.

Orbiting platform could guide huge tungsten rods into underground bunkers.

GPS satellites help U.S. bomber guide tungsten rod bombs.

Communications satellite links space, air, land and sea forces and coordinates their activities.