



Higher Eyes in the Sky: The Feasibility of Moving AWACS and JSTARS Functions into Space

By Kimberly M. Corcoran

Biblioscholar Nov 2012, 2012. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 246x189x4 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - During the past few years, United States Air Force (USAF) leaders have begun to emphasize space operations. Global Engagement: A Vision for the 21st Century Air Force states that we will eventually transition from an air and space force into a space and air force and various leaders have opined that that air and space are seamless. Gen Ronald R. Fogleman, USAF chief of staff, introduced the concept that in the future, we will be able to 'find, fix, target, track, and engage (F2T2E)' any target, anywhere on the earth. In order to accomplish F2T2E, the functions performed by the E-3 airborne warning and control system (AWACS) and the E-8 joint surveillance, target attack radar system (JSTARS) will need to migrate to space-based platforms. This study explores how such a migration would occur. Before examining space operations, the historical military need for moving target indicators (MTI) is examined, tracing the evolution from hot air balloons to our current AWACS and JSTARS aircraft. Because space systems operate differently from airborne systems, those differences are explored. The organizations involved...

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