

3.2 Multilateral Verification and Arms Control Agreement  
(Continued)

Another scenario would envisage the development and deployment of Paxsat as an adjunct to existing agreements, rather than as a verification asset at the disposal of a new accord relating to military activities in outer space. According to this option, Paxsat could assist in verifying adherence to such agreements as the ABM Treaty, the Outer Space Treaty and the Moon Treaty.

Once again, however, there would appear to be serious problems with this scenario.

- (a) Insofar as it is intended that Paxsat be accorded a formal verification role, the treaties as negotiated would have to be amended to this end.
- (b) Given that these agreements were negotiated in the absence of the sort of capability represented by Paxsat, it is at least questionable whether or not such a capability is needed in order to ensure adequate confidence in adherence. Moreover, in some contexts, such as the Outer Space Treaty, it is arguable that certain provisions of the agreements are themselves unverifiable, given the nature of the technologies and activities prohibited. The utility of Paxsat in these contexts is, therefore questionable.

Specific problems arise in contemplating a role for Paxsat in the context of existing bilateral accords such as the ABM Treaty. Were Paxsat and its associated administrative mechanisms to be formally associated with the Treaty, renegotiation would be necessary. Moreover, if Paxsat is seen as a verification asset at the disposal of a group of states other than the Superpowers, the ABM Treaty itself would have to be made into a multilateral accord. This, in turn, would pose serious problems since key provisions of the existing treaty are incompatible with its multilateralization.

There is one final scenario which would involve the operation of Paxsat in other than a multilateral treaty context. This would envisage Paxsat as a 'stand-alone' verification asset at the disposal of a state or group of states, designed to verify the adherence of other