New weapons alter war

By Tina Krontiris

A new generation of precision weapons is radically altering the nature of modern conventional warfare, an American arms expert told an MIT audience of war studies students.

Mr. James Digby, a researcher for the "think-tank" Rand Corporation in California, discussed recent developments in precision-guided munitions (PGMs) at a Center for International Studies Seminar on Technology and International Security called "Precision Weapons is Less Really More?"

PGMs are highly accurate, terminal-guided missiles which include low altitude cruise missiles, "kamikaze" remotely piloted vehicles, and other long- and short-range missiles.

According to Digby, PGMs have become relatively inexpensive, developable and transportable missiles which include low altitude cruise missiles, "kamikaze" remotely piloted vehicles, and other long- and short-range missiles.

PGMs are guided with optical sighting, laser, or by terrain recognition. The latest in PGM development is the "terming" or "think" of the concept of PGM development, which is to alter the presence of numbers of these munitions is growing, and is already hindering nuclear arms negotiations with the Soviets with regard to cruise missiles.

Two important political implications of PGM development were discussed: they could lessen the problem of verifying the presence of numbers of these munitions is growing, and is already hindering nuclear arms negotiations with the Soviets with regard to cruise missiles.

After the seminar, Paul Walker, a Political Science graduate student specializing in military affairs commented, "The talk was very good, but a lot more brainstimming needs to be done."

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